



President Barack Obama meets with the Kuwait Amir Sheik Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, Friday, Sept. 13, 2013. The visit by Sheik Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah comes as Obama and top aides are lobbying skeptical lawmakers to support using military force against Syria for a deadly chemical weapons attack the U.S. says was carried out by Syrian President Bashar Assad.

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

US won't insist UN resolution threaten force on Syria

PETER BAKER
 © 2013 New York Times
WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama will not insist on a U.N. resolution threatening to use force to ensure that Syria lives up to its commitment to turn over chemical weapons, but will seek other tangible consequences for Syria if it does

not comply, senior administration officials said Friday. Although Obama reserves the right to order a punitive military strike on his own without U.N. backing if Syria reneges, the officials said he understood that Russia, because of its veto power in the Security Council, would never allow a resolution that authorized such a use of force.

France, which has been America's strongest ally in the push to punish Syria for an Aug. 21 chemical weapons attack on civilians, this week proposed that a Security Council resolution invoke Chapter 7, a clause that allows U.N.

members to use military action to enforce its provisions. Obama essentially is conceding that he cannot overcome Russian opposition, but he believes that a resolution must have teeth in it, and he will not agree to Syria's demand that he renounce force altogether. Instead, the officials said,

the Obama administration will seek a Security Council resolution that builds in other measures to enforce a deal with the government of President Bashar Assad, possibly including sanctions or other penalties.

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U.S.-led troops investigate the site of a suicide car bombing and a gunfight near the U.S. consulate in Herat Province, west of Kabul, Afghanistan, Friday, Sept. 13, 2013. Taliban militants attacked the U.S. consulate in western Afghanistan on Friday morning, using a car bomb and guns to battle security forces just outside the compound in the city of Herat.

(AP Photo/Hoshang Hashimi)

Taliban attack on US Consulate kills 4

**AMIR SHAH
NAHAL TOOSI**
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) —

The Taliban attacked a U.S. Consulate in western Afghanistan with car bombs and guns on Friday, killing at least four Afghans but failing to enter the compound or hurt any Americans.

The attack in the city of Herat underscored concerns about an insurgency that shows no signs of letting up as U.S.-led troops reduce their presence ahead of a full withdrawal next year.

Within hours of the assault, the U.S. temporarily evacuated many of its consular personnel to the embassy in Kabul, 650 kilometers (400 miles) to the east.

Herat lies near Afghanistan's border with Iran and is considered one of the safer cities in the country, with a strong Iranian influence. Friday's attack highlighted the Taliban's reach: The militants once concentrated their activities in the east and the south, but in recent years have demonstrated an ability to strike with more frequency in the once-peaceful north and west.

In a phone call, Taliban spokesman Qari Yousef Ahmadi took responsibility for the assault.

An interpreter and three members of the Afghan security forces were killed, said U.S. State Department deputy spokeswoman Ma-

rie Harf.

Seven militants, including two drivers of explosives-laden vehicles, also died, according to Gen. Rahmatullah Safi, Herat province's chief of police.

At least 17 people were wounded, said Herat hospital official Sayednaim Alemi.

The attack began about 6 a.m. when militants in an SUV and a van set off their explosives while others on foot fired on Afghan security forces guarding the Consulate, Safi said.

He said the militants were not able to breach the compound, where Americans live and work.

Harf said the attackers fired rocket propelled grenades and that the compound's front gate was extensively damaged in one of the bombings.

Footage broadcast on Afghanistan's Tolo television network showed Afghan police dragging away a badly bloodied man from the scene. Rubble and twisted pieces of metal lay strewn in a seemingly wide area near the consulate.

American security personnel were among those responding to the attack, Harf said.

Robert Hilton, a spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, said "all consulate personnel are safe and accounted for." Most of the staff were temporarily relocated to the capital, but some essential personnel

stayed in Herat, he said.

U.S. and other foreign missions are attractive targets for militants in Afghanistan, but their high walls and strict security also make them difficult to penetrate. The militants also often carry out complex attacks that include suicide car bombers and fighters on foot.

Last month, a botched bombing against the Indian Consulate in the Afghan city of Jalalabad killed nine people, including six children. No Indian officials were hurt. And two years ago to the day, insurgents fired rocket-propelled grenades and assault rifles at the U.S. Embassy, NATO offices and other buildings in Kabul.

Also Friday morning, a suicide truck bombing wounded seven Afghans in eastern Paktika province's Sar Hawza district, said Mokhlis Afghan, a spokesman for the provincial governor. Paktika province lies along the border with Pakistan, and militants affiliated with the Taliban and al-Qaida are active in the region. Friday's attacks came in the wake of nationwide celebrations after the Afghan soccer team won the South Asian Football Federation Championship on Wednesday. The win produced a rare moment of national unity in this ethnically divided country, and euphoric Afghans poured into the streets to express their joy over the victory. □

Advocates turn to Obama for action on immigration

ERICA WERNER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — With immigration legislation stalled in Congress, advocates are intensifying pressure on the Obama administration to act unilaterally to stop deportations or grant legal status to some of the 11 million people now living in the U.S. illegally.

Activists are stepping up acts of civil disobedience like one last month in Phoenix, where they blocked a bus full of immigrant detainees. And labor leaders plan to press the issue with a top White House official in an upcoming meeting. Far-reaching legislation with new visa and workplace enforcement programs and billions for border security — along with a path to citizenship for millions — passed the Democratic-controlled Senate in June, but it has been stalled in the Republican-led House ever since.

Congress' just-completed August recess did little to create momentum for the House to act, despite efforts by advocates and a notable absence of anti-immigrant protests. Washington's recent focus on Syria seemed to further sideline the issue. Also, lawmakers will be occupied in coming weeks with finding ways to pass bills to keep the government running when money runs out on Sept. 30 and raising the ceiling on the federal debt.

Many advocates continue to hold out hope for a legislative solution even as some shift their focus to the White House. "If Congress doesn't move, the president has a duty to act," said Ana Avendano, director of immigration and community action at the AFL-CIO. "Just because the Republicans have buried their heads in the sand doesn't mean that immigrant communities aren't feeling the sting of constant deportations." The possibility of executive action is inflaming Republican suspicions. Sen. Marco Rubio, a possible 2016 presidential candidate,

and others warn that President Barack Obama will be tempted to act on his own to legalize some or all of the people now living in the country illegally.

"I think that's actually what Obama wants to do. I think he wants Congress not to pass something so he can do it on his own and he can take credit for it," Rep. Raul Labrador, a Republican, said in an interview. "He needs to be very careful, though, because he continues to flout the law, and he continues to do things that are beyond his authority. And at some point, Congress is going to have enough." The administration acted on its own a year ago to change policy and suspend deportations of some immigrants brought illegally into the country as children. More than 450,000 of them have benefited so far. White House officials refuse to publicly entertain any discussion of taking further steps. "The only way to bring 11 million undocumented individuals out of the shadow economy is for Congress to pass common-sense reform with an earned path to citizenship. That's it. Full stop," said White House spokesman Bobby Whitthorne. When asked in interviews about the high number of deportations under his administration, Obama has sought to put the onus on Congress. "I'm not a king," he told Telemundo earlier this year. Advocates say administration officials are no more receptive in private, although Cecilia Munoz, director of Obama's Domestic Policy Council, has agreed to meet with labor leaders on the issue, something that's in the process of being scheduled, according to one union official who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the private gathering.

The issue arises against the backdrop of an uncertain outlook in Congress for comprehensive immigration legislation offering eventual citizenship to those already in the country illegally. □

Trans-Atlantic balloon attempt short of its goal

YORK HARBOR, Newfoundland (AP) — A U.S. balloonist who was trying to cross the Atlantic Ocean using hundreds of helium-filled balloons has landed short of his goal in Newfoundland.

"This doesn't look like France," he posted on Facebook.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corp. reported Friday that it used a helicopter to retrieve Jonathan Trappe from the remote area where he landed a night earlier.

"It's not the destination I set out for, but it's kind of the way with real adventure. Adventure isn't what you planned on, it's what you find, and that's what we have today," he told the CBC.

Trappe landed safely in a rugged area near York Harbour after reporting that he was having trouble controlling his balloons Thursday evening, according to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Instead of using a conventional hot-air balloon, Trappe was using more than 300 colorful helium-filled balloons, like those used in the animated movie "Up."

He lifted off Thursday morning from Caribou, Maine, in hopes of becoming the first person to cross the Atlantic using a cluster of helium balloons.

But he ran into trouble as he approached Newfoundland and was in communication with a search and rescue center in Halifax, Nova Scotia, said Lt. Steve Henley of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Stephenville. The balloonist's movements were tracked by radar by Canadian officials, he said. He told CBC that his calculations indicated he wasn't going to make it to Europe so he decided to set down on land before crossing over open ocean, where a water landing would've been more dangerous. He said the landing had its hairy moments because he was coming in fast. □

US won't insist UN resolution threaten force on Syria

Continued from Front

The administration will give negotiations now under way with the Russians a couple of weeks to see if they have any traction.

The position laid out by the officials, who insisted on anonymity to discuss diplomatic negotiations, could remove one obstacle in a difficult three-way geopolitical dance with Russia and Syria.

The officials described the position of the Obama administration as Secretary of State John Kerry and Foreign Minister Sergey V. Lavrov conducted a second day of negotiations in Geneva.

Administration officials said the discussions had been serious enough to convince them that the Russians were not simply playing games, but they added that there was no guarantee that they could resolve

other disagreements on the shape of an eventual deal. Obama expressed cautious optimism after a meeting with the visiting emir of Kuwait, Amir Sabah al-Sabah. "I shared with the emir my hope that the negotiations that are currently taking place between Secretary of State Kerry and Foreign Minister Lavrov in Geneva bear fruit," the president said.

"But I repeated what I've said publicly, which is that

any agreement needs to be verifiable and enforceable."

The administration has not laid out publicly what would constitute verifiable and enforceable, and officials on Friday left open the possibility that there might be an acceptable alternative to a Security Council resolution, although they said they could not imagine what that would be at the moment. □



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, right, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, left, walk with the U.N.-Arab League envoy for Syria, Lakhdar Brahimi, center, into a meeting at the United Nations offices in Geneva to discuss the ongoing problems in Syria, Friday, Sept. 13, 2013.

(AP Photo/Larry Downing.)

Muslim group seeks rehiring of Wal-Mart US worker

CAROLYN THOMPSON
Associated Press

HAMBURG, New York (AP) — A Muslim advocacy group is asking Wal-Mart to rehire a worker who posted derogatory comments about Muslim customers on Facebook and was fired last week.

Ibrahim Hooper, spokesman for the Council On American-Islamic Relations, said Friday that the group had accepted Terrance

Earsing's apology and, in a letter to Wal-Mart U.S. President and Chief Executive William Simon, urged the retailer to do the same. Earsing was an assistant manager at a Wal-Mart in the Buffalo suburb of Hamburg.

Along with a picture of Muslim women in traditional dress, his expletive-filled posting read: "Halloween came early this year. ... Do they really have to ... dress

like that."

"After the incident, we have engaged in conversations with Mr. Earsing on the situation and have come to the conclusion that Mr. Earsing is truly apologetic and will try to engage in more community and religious tolerance dialogues to ensure no future religious discrimination situations occur," the letter to Wal-Mart from CAIR-NY Board President Ryan Ma-

honey said.

"With Mr. Earsing's apology, we hope that Wal-Mart will accept his apology and if possible provide him employment," the letter said. Spokeswoman Ashley Hardie said Wal-Mart Stores Inc. would not comment on the letter, dated Wednesday. Earlier, the company said Earsing had failed to meet the company's expectations. □

Bloomberg says he will not make endorsement in mayoral race

KATE TAYLOR

MICHAEL BARBARO

© 2013 New York Times

NEW YORK - Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg said Friday that he had decided not to make an endorsement in the general election for mayor, a surprise announcement in a campaign that has become something of a referendum on his legacy.

The mayor said he would focus instead on governing during his final months in office and promised to assist whoever prevails after the November election.

The announcement, made on his weekly radio show, ended weeks of speculation that, faced with the prospect of Bill de Blasio, the public advocate and a fierce critic of the mayor's policies, becoming the Democratic nominee, Bloomberg might seek to put a finger on the scale by endorsing the Republican candidate, Joseph J.

Lhota.

Asked by the show's host, John Gambling, if he would stay out of the race or get more involved, Bloomberg began a long-winded response that at first seemed

as if it would avoid answering the question, talking about how his two goals for the next 109 days were to continue providing the services that New Yorkers expect and to "make sure

that we have a world-class transition." "Helping the next mayor get prepared for the job so he can hit the ground running is really one of the most important things I can do for New Yorkers

after November," he said, adding, "I don't want to do anything that complicates it for the next mayor, and that's one of the reasons I've decided I'm just not going to make an endorsement in the race."

A deputy mayor, Howard Wolfson, confirmed on Twitter that Bloomberg was speaking both about the primary election - in which it is not yet clear if de Blasio will have the 40 percent to clinch the nomination, with thousands of paper ballots still uncounted - and the general election.

Bloomberg did not discuss de Blasio or Lhota in the radio interview.

But he has made little secret of his dislike for de Blasio, whose campaign's message has doubled as an emphatic critique of the mayor's record. Bloomberg also has a rocky relationship with Lhota, who once referred to the mayor as an idiot. □



Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, left, and New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, second left, stand with Mary Pat Christie, center, her husband, New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, second right, and New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, right, in New York. Standing in the center background is New York Democratic mayoral hopeful Bill de Blasio.

(AP Photo/Adrees Latif)

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Boston bomb suspect's friends plead not guilty

DENISE LAVOIE

AP Legal Affairs Writer

BOSTON (AP) — Three friends of Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev pleaded not guilty Friday to charges they hindered the investigation into the deadly attack. Authorities allege that the friends went to Tsarnaev's dorm room at the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth three days after the bombings, soon after the FBI posted photographs of the two bombing suspects, Tsarnaev and his older brother. The friends are accused in an indictment of removing several items from the room, including Tsarnaev's laptop computer and a backpack containing fireworks.

One friend, Robel Phillipos, 19, of Cambridge, was indicted last month on two counts of lying to authorities while he was being questioned. His lawyers declined to comment after the brief arraignment in U.S. District Court but said in a statement that Phillipos "had nothing to do whatsoever with the Boston Marathon bombing or destroying any evidence." "In the end, it will be clear that this prosecution should never have been brought in the first place," attorneys Derege Demissie and Susan Church said in the statement.

Authorities allege that Tsarnaev, 20, and his brother Tamerlan, 26, ethnic Chechens from Russia, planned and carried out twin bombings near the finish of the marathon on April 15. Three people were killed and more than 260 were injured. Tamerlan Tsarnaev died in a gunbattle with police as authorities closed in on the brothers several days after the bombings.

Dias Kadyrbayev and Azamat Tazhayakov, both Kazakhstan nationals, are both charged with obstruction of justice and conspiracy to obstruct justice. All four men attended the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth.

Robert Stahl, an attorney for Kadyrbayev, said his client was "shocked and horrified" by the bombings and had "no intent" to obstruct justice.

"I'm saying he didn't dispose of evidence, didn't understand it was evidence, and the rest will come out at trial," Stahl told reporters after the arraignment. More than two dozen family members and friends attended the hearing to support Phillipos. During an argument for bail in May, his lawyer portrayed him as a frightened and confused young man who was subjected to intense interrogation during the investigation. □



Robel Phillipos leaves federal court Friday, Sept. 13, 2013, in Boston after he was arraigned on charges of hindering the investigation of Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev. Phillipos pleaded not guilty to the charges. (AP Photo/Stephan Savoia)

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Bill would create California quake warning system

ALICIA CHANG
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — California could join Japan, Mexico and other earthquake-prone countries that alert residents to the approach of powerful shaking under a bill awaiting approval from the governor. The state Legislature advanced the bill that would create a quake warning system during Thursday's last hours of its session. Gov. Jerry Brown has until Oct. 13 to decide.

The U.S. lags behind other nations in developing a public alert system, which provides several seconds of warning after a fault ruptures — enough time for trains to brake, utilities to shut off gas lines or people to dive under a table until the shaking stops.

For the past several years, the U.S. Geological Survey and universities have test-

ed a prototype that fires off messages to about two dozen groups in the state, mostly scientists and first responders.

The biggest challenge is finding steady funding to support and maintain a statewide network. The bill does not address where funding to create the alert system would come from, but it can't be built using general fund revenues. State emergency managers would have until 2016 to hash out the funding, estimated at \$80 million for the first five years of operation. Seismic early warning systems are designed to detect the first shock waves from a large jolt, calculate the strength and alert people before the slower but damaging waves spread.

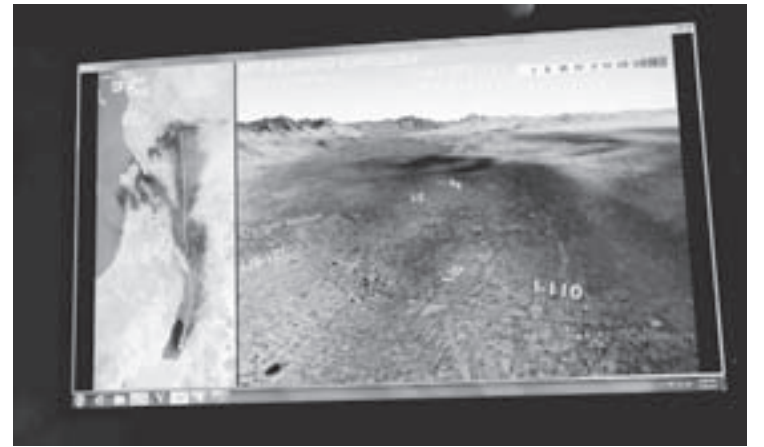
The systems can't predict quakes and are most useful during big events where it would be meaningful to

warn people far away to expect strong shaking, scientists said. If the San Andreas Fault suddenly broke, people living close to the epicenter won't receive any warning. But those living farther away would receive notice.

During the 2011 Japanese disaster, millions of people received 5 to 40 seconds of warning depending on how far they were from the epicenter. The notices were sent to cellphones and broadcast over airwaves.

"This is doable" in California, said USGS seismologist Doug Given, who heads the testing.

So far, scientists have spent about \$15 million since 2002 developing the test system. Before launching a quake alert system, scientists would need to upgrade old monitoring stations and



A computer-generated graphic that demonstrates an earthquake early warning system is displayed at a news conference at the California Institute of Technology Pasadena, Calif. Late Thursday, Sept. 12, 2013, the California Legislature sent Gov. Jerry Brown a bill that would require development of an earthquake early warning system.

(AP Photo/Reed Saxon)

add an extra 440 seismic sensors in vulnerable regions such as the northern tip of the San Andreas near San Francisco and the San Jacinto Fault in Southern California.

Sen. Alex Padilla, the bill's sponsor, said the warning

system could be developed using federal grants, partnerships with the private sector or surcharges levied by the state.

Brown spokesman Jim Evans declined to say whether the governor would support the bill. □

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US Financial Front:

American retail sales rise slight 0.2 percent in August



School uniforms by Izod are displayed at J.C. Penney in New York. Americans boosted their spending at retail businesses only modestly in August, indicating that economic growth remains sluggish. (AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) —

Americans boosted their spending at retail businesses only modestly in August, indicating that economic growth remains sluggish. Consumers bought more cars, furniture and elec-

tronics last month but held back on most other purchases. Spending at retail businesses rose just 0.2 percent last month, the Commerce Department said Friday. It was the smallest gain in four months. But the government said retail spending was stronger in

the previous month than first estimated, revising the July estimate to 0.4 percent from 0.2 percent. Excluding volatile spending on autos, gas and building supplies, sales in August increased just 0.2 percent, or less than half July's 0.5 percent gain. Consumer may be growing more cautious about spending, a trend that could slow economic growth in the July-September quarter. Slow wage growth, modest job gains and higher taxes have limited Americans' spending power. Retail sales are closely watched because they're the government's first look each month at consumer spending, which accounts for 70 percent of economic activity. "Con-

sumer spending remained stuck in middle gear in the summer," said Sal Guatieri, an economist at BMO Capital Markets. Guatieri forecasts that spending is growing at an annual rate of roughly 2 percent in the current July-September quarter, about the same as the previous quarter. That suggests economic growth is slowing to an annual rate of about 2 percent, down from the 2.5 percent annual rate that the government estimated for the April-June quarter. Most economists said the retail sales figures are likely healthy enough for the Federal Reserve to begin cutting back its monthly bond purchases when it meets next week. □

Ford's US sales chief to retire

DEARBORN, Michigan (AP)

— Ford Motor Co.'s marketing and sales chief in the U.S. is retiring as of Nov. 1.

Ken Czubay, 64, will be replaced by John Felice, who will be vice president of U.S. marketing, sales and service.

The company also named Barb Samardzich as chief operating officer at Ford of Europe.

Czubay will retire after a 43-year career in the automotive business. He started at Ford in 1970, but left the company in 1983 to work at Nissan Motor Co. and Southeast Toyota Distribu-

tors. He returned to Ford in 2008 to head U.S. marketing and sales, as well as dealer and service operations, Ford said in a statement Friday.

Felice, 51, now is general sales manager for the Ford and Lincoln brands. He's been with the company almost 30 years in a variety of senior marketing and sales posts in the U.S. and Asia. He served as president of Ford's Thailand operations. In Europe, Samardzich, 54, will head product development, manufacturing, quality, purchasing and environment and safety engineering. □



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Syrian rebels skeptical of chemical weapons deal

BARBARA SURK
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Syria's main opposition group in exile was "deeply skeptical" Friday about Damascus signing an international treaty banning the production and use of chemical weapons, saying a U.N. resolution was needed to enforce compliance.

Syrian President Bashar Assad told Russian TV that his government would start submitting data on its chemical weapons stockpile a month after signing the convention.

His ambassador to the United Nations said that as of Thursday, Syria had become a full member of the treaty, which requires destruction of all chemical weapons.

"This gesture comes as too little, too late to save civilians from the regime's murderous intent," said the main Western-backed Syrian opposition group, the Syrian National Council.

"It is clearly an attempt to evade international action

as well as accountability in front of the Syrian people," it said.

It said the regime must not be allowed to use diplo-

weapons stockpile has — for now — averted a U.S. military strike in response to the alleged chemical weapons attack that killed

killed; others estimated a lower death toll.

Assad has denied responsibility, blaming the rebels and accusing Washington of spreading lies without evidence to justify a military strike.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said he believes there will be "an overwhelming report" from the world body's inspectors that chemical weapons were used in the attack, but he did not say who was responsible. Under the mandate for the inspectors, the team was to determine whether or not chemical agents were used and if so, which agent.

The chief chemical weapons inspector, Ake Sellstrom, told The Associated Press that he has completed his report and will deliver it to Ban in New York this weekend.

Ban also said the Assad's regime "has committed many crimes against humanity." "Therefore, I'm sure that there will be surely the process of account-

ability when everything is over," Ban said in remarks shown on U.N. television.

Fighting in the civil war continued. Activists said government troops battled for the ancient Christian village of Maaloula, north-east of the capital of Damascus; regime warplanes bombed rebel positions in the southern province of Daraa and in the eastern oil-rich province of Deir el-Zour; and both sides clashed in Barzeh, on the edge of Damascus.

Russian President Vladimir Putin praised Syria's joining of the Chemical Weapons Convention, telling an international security meeting in Kyrgyzstan that the move proved Damascus' "serious intentions." The summit was dominated by Russia, China and Iran, all Assad allies.

Syria's opposition said it was "deeply skeptical," and rebel commanders accused Assad of moving the chemical weapons to make tracking them more difficult. □



A Syrian girl holds a placard during a demonstration in Aleppo, Syria, Friday, Sept. 13, 2013. The Syrian revolutionary flag is seen at right.

(AP Photo/AMC)

macy "to indefinitely stall international action while it continues its policy of widespread violence against civilians." Syria's acceptance of a Russian proposal to relinquish its chemical

weapons stockpile has — for now — averted a U.S. military strike in response to the alleged chemical weapons attack that killed

hundreds near Damascus on Aug. 21. The U.S. accuses Assad's government of being responsible for the attack in the suburb of Ghouta, saying 1,429 people were

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Philippine president warns rebels to end standoff

BULLIT MARQUEZ
Associated Press

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines

(AP) — Philippine officials negotiated Friday with Muslim rebels who were holding more than 100 people hostage,

as President Benigno Aquino III warned that his government won't hesitate to use force to end the five-day standoff.

Aquino visited troops and some of the 24,000 people displaced by the violence in southern Zamboanga city, where about 200 fighters from a Muslim rebel faction stormed into several coastal communities ear-

lier this week and took residents hostage. Twenty-two people, including 15 rebels, have been killed so far in repeated clashes between the guerrillas and the troops who have surrounded them.

Fighting broke out again in Santa Catalina village on Friday, and ABS-CBN TV reported that voices presumably of hostages were heard shouting "cease fire, cease fire!"

One government soldier was reportedly wounded. A mortar fired by the rebels landed on a street in front of the government hospital in Santa Catalina. □

Clashes erupt in Egypt as Islamists stage protests

ASHRAF SWEILAM
TONY G. GABRIEL
Associated Press
CAIRO (AP) —

Clashes erupted between supporters and opponents of Egypt's ousted president during nationwide protests Friday as the military battled al-Qaida-inspired groups in northern Sinai. The street rallies came a day after Egypt's military-backed interim government extended a nationwide state of emergency by two months, citing ongoing security concerns. Officials said they feared more terrorist attacks after a failed assassination attempt targeting Egypt's interior minister last week and suicide attacks this week at a military intelligence headquarters and a checkpoint in Sinai that killed six people. Unrest in Egypt spiked after the popularly backed July 3 military coup that toppled President Mohammed Morsi.

The interim government has responded by targeting members of Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood for arrest and detention. Many Brotherhood members, like Essam el-Erian, who is wanted on charges of inciting violence and murder, remain on the run.

"We will not give up our rights," said el-Erian, urging more protests in a video aired on Al-Jazeera. Mubashir Misr, a network affiliate. "We will not surrender to an oppressive power that only speaks the language of the bullets."

The security crackdown has impacted the group's ability to mobilize in the streets to protest Morsi's ouster. But on Friday, demonstrations appeared to be larger than usual and several descended into violence. In the coastal city of Alexandria, hundreds of Brotherhood supporters marched after Friday prayers from a main mosque to a major



Supporters of Egypt's ousted President Mohammed Morsi chant slogans against army, background, and hold placards showing an open palm with four raised fingers, which has become a symbol of the Rabaah al-Adawiya mosque, where Morsi supporters had held a sit-in for weeks that was violently dispersed in August, during a protest in Cairo, Egypt, Friday, Sept. 13, 2013. Sporadic clashes have erupted in several cities across Egypt as supporters of the Islamist president continue to hold protests. (AP Photo/Hassan Ammar)

thoroughfare, where they confronted a rally by Morsi opponents. State television showed footage of anti-Morsi protesters tear-

ing down Morsi posters and chasing Brotherhood supporters through the streets. Authorities said the two sides hurled stones at each

other as gunshots rang out. Security forces broke up the melee by firing tear gas and arresting a number of protesters. □



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37 dead in 19th century Russian psychiatric hospital fire

VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV
Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — A pre-dawn fire swept through a Russian psychiatric hospital Friday, killing 37 people, officials said. Authorities had long warned that the mostly wooden building dating to the 19th century was unsafe.

It was the second such deadly blaze in less than five months, underlining the widespread neglect of fire safety standards in Russia. The fire in the one-story hospital in the village of Luka, about 450 kilometers (280 miles) northwest of Moscow, erupted around 3

a.m. and quickly engulfed the structure, the Emergency Situations Ministry said. The ministry said rescuers so far have recovered 26 bodies. The Investigative Committee did not explain how it confirmed the other deaths. The agency added that the blaze was apparently inadvertently sparked by a patient, but the hospital's chief doctor insisted the fire was a deliberate arson. State Rossiya 24 television reported that a witness said a smoking patient caused the fire. It said a nurse tried to put out the flames with a blanket but they spread



Emergency Situations workers and fire fighters work at a site of a fire at a psychiatric hospital in Luka village in the Novgorod region, Russia, Friday, Sept. 13, 2013. A fire swept through the Russian psychiatric hospital, killing at least three people and leaving more than 30 others feared dead, officials said Friday. Authorities had long warned that the building was unsafe and called for its closure.

(AP Photo/Russian Emergency Ministry)

quickly. The 44-year old nurse, who was married and had four children, died in the fire while trying to rescue the patients, it reported. The man who started the fire was saved, Rossiya 24 reported. However, Husein Magomedov, the hospital's chief doctor, denied the fire was caused by a smoking patient and said that the patient deliberately set the fire and died in the blaze.

Firefighters arrived at the scene within minutes, but found the building already swept up in flames. "Fire spread through the building in a moment," Boris Borzov, the top firefighting official, said in televised remarks. Russian television stations showed the smoldering ruins of the hospital with rescuers combing through debris in a search for bodies. Emergency officials said

23 of the 60 people in the building when the blaze broke out were evacuated. Emergency teams combed a nearby forest for patients who may have fled the blaze or wandered off, but officials said from the start they had little hope of finding any survivors. Emergency officials had demanded the facility be closed after it failed a fire safety check earlier this year. □

Hacker steals personal info in cyber strike

HELSINKI (AP) — Helsinki Police say they detained a hacker last weekend suspected of accessing thousands of usernames and passwords of visitors to more than 300 websites. Police spokesman Jukka-pekka Risu said officers arrested an unnamed local man, who allegedly acknowledged his actions.

Officers are analyzing his confiscated computers. They declined to give more details. The Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority warned Friday that the suspect might have accessed "usernames and passwords of hundreds of thousands of Finns," mostly from chat forums, adding that the at-

tacks were not aimed at banks. Erkki Mustonen from global computer security company F-Secure Corp. said it was one of the biggest hacker attacks in the Nordic country to date and could have been prompted by a desire for the hacker to demonstrate his skills. □

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Mexico City: Police move in on protesters

ADRIANA LICON
MARK STEVENSON
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Thousands of striking teachers briefly seized control of the historic heart of Mexico City on Friday, blockading the Zocalo plaza armed with metal pipes and wooden clubs. Minutes after a late-afternoon government deadline, riot police started pushing into the area, firing tear gas and ducking hurled rocks in a confrontation culminating weeks of protests against an education reform.

The teachers used steel grates and plastic traffic dividers to block the streets leading into the Zocalo, home to the Metropolitan Cathedral, Templo Mayor and National Palace, some of the city's best-known tourist attractions. Hundreds of Mexico City and federal riot police massed on the other sides of the barriers, then swarmed into the square past the famed Aztec temple, chasing down and arresting protesters.

Mexico's government had promised that Independence Day celebrations, including the traditional presidential shout of independence from a balcony

overlooking the square, would take place in Zocalo Sunday and Monday.

The president's office pointedly released an official schedule in the middle of the protests, noting that the independence "shout" would take place at the National Palace at its usual time Sunday night. Manuel Mondragon, the head of the federal police, warned on national television that police would move in at 4 p.m. local time. The teachers, many veterans of battles with police in the poor southern states where they live, promised not to move from the square where they have camped out for weeks, launching a string of disruptive marches around the city.

Shortly after the deadline, the police swarmed in, shooting tear gas from specially equipped fire extinguishers and tossed flash grenades. Protesters hurled sticks and chunks of pavement broken from the street. Within a half hour, police had cleared the Zocalo, and much of the surrounding historic center, of virtually all protesters. Union organizers said they would reassemble away from the main plaza.

The teachers have dis-



Backdropped by the National Palace, riot police enter the Zocalo to clear out any remaining striking teachers, Friday, Sept. 13, 2013. (AP Photo/Christian Palma)

rupted the center of one of the world's largest cities at least 15 times over the last two months, decrying a plan that aims to break union control of Mexico's dysfunctional education

system. President Enrique Pena Nieto dashed the teachers' hopes of blocking the overhaul when he signed the new system into law Tuesday. On Wednesday,

the protests began turning violent, as protesting teachers scuffled with riot police after officers set up a line to keep protesters from blocking one of the city's main expressways. □

Brazilian police sentenced to more than 30 years for killing

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — A Brazilian court has sentenced four Brazilian police officers to more than 30 years in prison for the killing of an 11-year old boy in a Rio de Janeiro slum. The judiciary branch of Rio de Janeiro state says Friday on its website that the four were involved in the June 2011 killing of Juan Moraes during a shootout

in the Danon slum. The boy had left his home to run an errand for his mother and was hit by police fire. His body was found three days later.

One officer was sentenced to 66 years and the other four were sentenced to terms ranging from 33 to 36 years. But under Brazilian law no one can serve more than 30 years in prison. □




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Havana abuzz over singer's concert lyrics

PETER ORSI

Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — It was a day when Cubans were called to speak with one voice to demand the return of intelligence agents serving long prison terms in the United States.

Then, at a nationally televised event outside the U.S. diplomatic mission in Havana, a prominent musician sang not only about the so-called Cuban Five but also his wish for more freedom of information and direct presidential elections.

Artists, writers and musicians have long enjoyed a certain amount of room to speak critically about the island's Communist system. But Robertico Carcasses' unusually bold lyrics at the pro-government concert-rally were the talk of the town on Friday.

Carcasses, the 41-year-old leader of the Cuban jazz-fusion combo Interactivo, sang about his desire for "free access to information so I can have my own opinion..."

"I want to elect the president by direct vote and not some other way," he continued.

"Neither militants nor dissidents, (we are) all Cubans with the same rights."

"And an end to the blockade," he added, in reference to Washington's 51-year-old economic embargo against Cuba, "and

to self-blockade."

Then, more in line with the theme of the event, he gestured at the U.S. Interests Section behind the stage and exclaimed, "Free the Five Heroes!"

"When I heard the first line, I thought, 'Did I hear that

everything he said."

A woman who answered the phone at Carcasses' home Friday said he was away, and calls to his cell-phone did not go through. His lyrics alluded to authorities' control over many aspects of society.

not by direct popular vote, but by parliament, which in turn is elected on a ballot with just one approved candidate for each seat. Cuba defends its political system as more participatory and democratic than most others.



People attend a concert as part of events marking the 15th anniversary of the U.S. arrest of five Cuban agents in Havana, Cuba, Thursday, Sept. 12, 2013. A Cuban singer's unusually bold lyrics at the nationally televised concert are the talk of Havana. Robertico Carcasses performed at the concert, singing of his wish for more freedom of information, direct presidential elections and an end to a "self-blockade" in Cuba.

(AP Photo/Ismael Francisco)

right?" said Diego Ferran, a 68-year-old retiree who watched the performance on TV.

"I was surprised that that was being shown on television ... I was very pleased that he would do that, and in that place right in front of the Interests Section," Ferran said. "He's very right in

The state and Communist Party operate nearly all island media, and Internet access rates are very low, if creeping upward.

The Communist Party is the only one allowed in Cuba, although membership is not a requirement to run in elections.

The president is selected

Other prominent musicians have tested the boundaries of acceptable speech. Legendary crooner Pablo Milanes has given interviews in which he criticized counter-protests that are quietly encouraged targeting anti-government groups such as the Ladies in White. □

Puerto Rico analyzes new financing plan

DANICA COTO

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico

(AP) — Puerto Rico is crafting a new financing plan as it seeks to reassure investors that it will not default on its obligations after announcing cuts in bond sales amid concerns about a record yield.

The Government Development Bank, which oversees bond sales, said this week that it is taking steps such as strengthening its liquidity through private deals in a bid to return to the market in upcoming months.

The announcement comes after a more than 10 percent yield on Puerto Rico bonds led the bank to reduce debt issuance to between \$500 million and \$1.2 billion for the rest of the year.

It's a move that some economists praised with caution, noting that Puerto Rico is a main issuer of bonds in the U.S., and that the bonds are popular because they are exempt from federal and state taxes.

"Puerto Rico is not going to default in the short term," Gustavo Velez, a prominent local economist, told The Associated Press on Friday. "The concern is how Puerto Rico is going to pay in the long term." □



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Aruba Marriott Associates complete Aruba Certification Program

PALM BEACH - Recently over forty associates of the Aruba Marriott Resort, Marriott Ocean Club and Marriott Surf Club participated in the Aruba Certification Program, an educational program organized by the Aruban government. The program is designed for every single person working in the tourism industry to enhance their knowledge of Aruba, its history, culture and natural resources and simultaneously focus on excellence in service, sustainability and social awareness. The Aruba Marriott is the first local company in Aruba that was able to facilitate the Aruba Certification Program for a large group of attendees at their own location. It allowed more associates to participate in the program. Marriott associates were named Aruban Certified Ambassadors after completion of a five day training facilitated by Melisa Robert and Giovanni de Windt of the



Aruba Tourism Authority. The goal is to have all associates become Aruba Certified Ambassadors. The Aruba Marriott has scheduled more training in the upcoming months at the Marriott Ballroom. □



The Blue Lobster Restaurant: Moving Forward!



PALM BEACH - Proud owners and staff of The Blue Lobster Restaurant are looking forward to the third high season which is expected to become a great experi-



ence. Not only for the staff, but also for their thousands of customers, who have chosen this new eatery as their favorite place for fine dining. Many friends and families will be returning to their beloved island after a full year of hard work, looking forward to enjoy another wonderful vacation full of nice moments and good memories. This adds up to the many appreciated clients who visited us for the first time during the period March- November and made The Blue Lobster Restaurant part of the best restaurants on the island. Based on recommendations made by our appreciated clientele, the Blue Lobster decided to add to its already extensive menu, a good number of much desired new dishes. If you are a fresh fish lover, The Blue Lobster is now offering fresh catch of the day, superbly prepared and topped with the sauce of your choice, for you to enjoy. On the list you find fresh barracuda, wahoo, mahi mahi, red snapper (plate size) and grouper fil-



let. Live Lobster is becoming the plate of the day at the blue lobster, 2kilo, 1kilo and 1 pound, live lobsters, prepared a la termidor or practically in any way you want it. The chef's secret touch, is making this dish so popular, that customers are coming back for more, even 3 times before they leave the island! The demand for lunch at The Blue Lobster is increasing so rapidly that reservations are recommended. The lunch menu at The Blue Lobster has also been expanded to have a good variety of fresh fish right from the Aruban waters, these are served for lunch on a daily basis and presented "a la Aruban style", with its delicious 'funchi' (polenta) and our already famous 'Creole sauce.' Local dishes are making a grand debut at The Blue Lobster during lunch time, like fresh homemade soups and 'carni stoba' (local style stew beef). Perhaps a wonderful 'mochi' of barracuda with fried sweet plantains and rice or mashed potatoes, could call your attention. You owe it to yourself; your trip to Aruba would be incomplete if a trip to this Aruban cuisine is not in your plans. Trip Advisor already gave the "Certificate Of Excellence Award" to the restaurant, not only for 2012

but also for 2013. The Blue Lobster also was awarded "The Best of Aruba" award becoming the best lobster house of the island. 10BEST.COM has also visited and qualified The Blue Lobster Restaurant and added us to the "10 Best list of Aruba" Not bad, huh? This must say something about the extraordinary and superb quality of the food being served at The Blue Lobster Restaurant, let alone the personalized professional service. Besides all this, now when you walk into the restaurant it gives you the sensation of walking into a relaxing, tropical reef, where you are welcomed by lots of colorful fish, crabs, turtles and even a mermaid! At The Blue Lobster those special customers celebrating an anniversary, birthday or honeymoon, are treated to a real romantic moment and a free desert and a free glass of Comte de Laube to make this moment unforgettable. The chef himself will come out of the kitchen and join the restaurant staff in singing Happy Birthday a la Aruban style while a free desert with a beautiful lighted flair is presented to those celebrating their important date. So, certainly The Blue Lobster Restaurant can say that in fact it is Moving Forward!□

Beauty On The Beach



Lucy Wisk

They are from New York. We wish them a pleasant stay here in Aruba!

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A big fight for Mayweather and some big numbers

TIM DAHLBERG
AP Boxing Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — If Richard Schaefer looked a bit nervous standing near his fighters on a massive stage this week at the MGM Grand, he had good reason.

In a city of high rollers, on one of the biggest betting days of the year, the head of Golden Boy Promotions is taking the biggest gamble of all. He's got \$60 million on the line that Floyd Mayweather Jr. and Canelo Alvarez will not only deliver a great fight on Saturday, but deliver at the box office, too.

He's betting the 152-pound (69-kilogram) matchup between two unbeaten fighters will be a blockbuster, perhaps the richest fight ever. And right now, there are not a lot of wise guys in this gambling city who would bet against him. "My goal is to break the record," Schaefer said. "We will do 2 million homes which will make it the single biggest pay-per-view in boxing."

If it is, it will be largely because Golden Boy is charg-



In this photo provided by the Las Vegas News Bureau, Floyd Mayweather Jr., left, and Canelo Alvarez pose the weigh-in for the Saturday boxing bout, Friday, Sept. 13, 2013, in Las Vegas. Mayweather's WBA super world and Alvarez's WBC junior middleweight titles are on the line

ing the single biggest price ever for a boxing match, a whopping \$74.95 if you want to watch in HD. That will give U.S. boxing fans at home not only the most anticipated fight in years but a 140-pound (63.5-kilogram) title fight between Danny Garcia and Lucas Matthisse that would be a headline bout anywhere else.

Want to be there in person? The fight sold out in hours, but you can still find a seat on the main floor for \$9,422. If that's too rich, the cheapest nosebleed seat on Thursday on StubHub was \$1,687.

Schaefer said the fight is such a hot ticket for the celebrity crowd that they're calling asking to buy tickets instead of getting them free. Magic Johnson wanted some and so did Kobe Bryant, but his choice of ringside seats in the center of the front row were already taken.

"Saturday could be a \$200 million night," Schaefer said. "Boxing is hardly a dying sport."

Continued on Page 22



In this April 13, 2011, file photo, former baseball player Barry Bonds leaves federal court in San Francisco after being found guilty of one count of obstruction of justice.

Associated Press

Appeals court upholds slugger Bonds' conviction

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A federal appeals court on Friday upheld former Giants slugger Barry Bonds' obstruction of justice conviction stemming from rambling testimony he gave during a 2003 appearance before a grand jury investigating performance enhancing drug use among elite athletes.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that Bonds' testimony was "evasive" and capable of misleading investigators and hin-

dering their probe into a performance enhancing drug ring centered at the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative, better known as BALCO.

A jury convicted Bonds of a single felony count of obstruction, stemming from when he answered a question about whether his trainer, Greg Anderson, had ever injected him with a substance by discussing the difficulties of being the son of a famous father. Bonds' father is former ma-

ior leaguer Bobby Bonds. The jury deadlocked on three other counts of perjury over Bonds' denial that he knowingly used drugs and those charges were later dismissed.

Bonds' appellate attorney, Dennis Riordan, didn't immediately return a call Friday morning. Bonds could ask a special 11-judge panel of the 9th Circuit to reconsider his case or he could petition the U.S. Supreme Court to hear his appeal. □

Furyk becomes 6th player to shoot 59 on PGA Tour

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

LAKE FOREST, Ill. (AP) -- With a shot at golf's magic number, Jim Furyk had no trouble finishing the job.

Furyk birdied two of his last three holes Friday in the BMW Championship to become the sixth player in PGA Tour history to shoot a 59. Needing a birdie on the par-4 ninth hole at Conway Farms, he stuffed a gap wedge into just over 3 feet and calmly knocked it in.

"A very cool card," Furyk said as he gazed at the scores, which included an eagle when he holed out with a 9-iron.

It was a day he won't forget, in the same town - the Chicago suburbs, anyway - where he won his lone major at the U.S. Open in 2003. Standing in the ninth fairway at Conway Farms, 103 yards from a front pin, Furyk didn't want to let his chance get away from him.

"I said, 'How many opportunities are you going to have in life to do this again?'" he said. "Got to take advantage of it. Tried to knock it in there tight and make it as easy on yourself as you can."

The gallery lined both sides of the fairway about 150 yards down from the green and gave him a huge ovation when he walked onto the green. One fan screamed out, "Jimmy, I'll give it to you!" Furyk smiled and waved at him.

He made the putt and repeatedly pumped his fist, turning for the gallery in the grandstands to see, and then he hugged caddie Mike "Fluff" Cowan and tapped him on the head. It looked like a Sunday afternoon, and had the occasion of a winning putt.

"I guess the moment kind of struck me the most at No. 9 when I hit it the wedge shot in there close, and the crowd erupted and I started looking around and it just hit me how many people had come over to that side to see the finish and how excited the crowd was," Furyk said. "It was kind of like winning a

golf tournament to be honest with you. It made it that much more fun."

There's work left for the trophy. Furyk was tied for the lead with Brandt Snedeker, who was nine shots clear of Furyk at the start of the second round and shot 68.

Snedeker knew Furyk was closing in on the lead. He just didn't realize Furyk had opened with a 72 and was on his way to a piece of history. That changed when Snedeker saw a video board as he was finishing on No. 18 that Furyk needed a birdie on No. 9 for a 59. "I thought, 'What the heck? Are you serious? There's no way,'" Snedeker said. "On a day like this when the wind is blowing 20 mph out of the north, I don't think anybody out here saw that score coming."

The next best score in the second round was a 65 by Jordan Spieth and Jimmy Walker. Zach Johnson was alone in third after a 70, three shots behind. No one else was closer than five shots. Tiger Woods thought he finished with a 70 to be five back, only to be given a two-shot penalty when video showed his ball moved while he was removing twigs around it on the first hole. That gave him a quadruple-bogey 8 on the opening hole and a 72, leaving him seven shots behind - and paired with Sergio Garcia in the third round.

It was the first 59 on the PGA Tour since Stuart Appleby in the final round of The Greenbrier Classic in 2010. The others with a 59 were Al Geiberger in the 1977 Memphis Classic; Chip Beck in the 1991 Las Vegas Invitational; David Duval in the 1999 Bob Hope Classic; and Paul Goydos in the 2010 John Deere Classic.

"There's not much I could have improved on today," Furyk said.

For a change, everything went right at the end. Furyk has been haunted in the last two years with a bogey on the 16th hole that cost him a shot at the 2012 U.S. Open, a double bogey

at Firestone last year that kept him from winning a World Golf Championship, a bogey-bogey finish in the Ryder Cup to lose a key match to Garcia last year in Chicago, and a one-shot lead he failed to hold just last month at the PGA Championship.

Making it worse, he was left off a U.S. team for the first time in 15 years when Presidents Cup captain Fred Couples did not make him a wild-card selection. On this day, Furyk gave Couples 59 reasons to reconsider.

Furyk described himself as "grouchy" on Thursday after having breakfast with two friends, Steve Stricker and Johnson, who were talking about the Presidents Cup. □



Jim Furyk laughs as a fan yells out encouragement on the ninth green during the second round of the BMW Championship golf tournament at Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest, Ill., Friday, Sept. 13, 2013. Furyk posted a round of 12-under-par 59, tying a PGA record for lowest score in a round.

Associated Press

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Patriots beat Jets 13-10 in ugly offensive game

HOWARD ULMAN

AP Sports Writer

FOXBOROUGH, Mass.-chussets (AP) —

New England quarterback Tom Brady threw a picture-perfect pass for a touchdown in the first series of the game before the game degenerated into a sloppy contest and the Patriots hung on for a 13-10 win over the New York Jets on Thursday. Brady threw a 39-yard touchdown pass to a wide-open Aaron Dobson but that was as good as the game got.

From then on, Brady had trouble connecting with his rookie-filled receiving corps, while Jets rookie quarterback Geno Smith was sacked four times when he took too much time to find someone to throw to. The Patriots (2-0) managed just nine first downs after leading the NFL in points and yards last season.

New York got within three points in the third quarter,



New England Patriots cornerback Aqib Talib, left, intercepts a pass intended for New York Jets wide receiver Santonio Holmes (10) in front of Patriots cornerback Kyle Arrington (25) during the fourth quarter of an NFL football game Thursday, Sept. 12, 2013, in Foxborough, Mass.

Associated Press

but Smith threw three interceptions in the fourth quarter, with the last of them coming with 38 seconds left to seal the home team's victory. With wide receiver Danny Amendola,

tight end Rob Gronkowski and running back Shane Vereen all sidelined, Brady was without three of his top offensive players. He was left with just two tight ends and four wide receivers,

three of them rookies.

"We have a long way to go," Brady said. "No one is coming to (our) rescue and save the day, so we've just got to fight through it."

In the second half, the

teams had to deal with a torrential downpour that started at intermission.

On the 17 possessions in the first half, there were 11 punts, a lost fumble, one missed field goal, three field goals and a touchdown. Brady's connection with Dobson marked the 50th straight game in which Brady has thrown a touchdown pass. New Orleans' Drew Brees, whose streak has ended, holds the NFL record of 54.

Stephen Gostkowski's 21-yard field goal made it 10-0 to the Patriots before Nick Folk kicked a 37-yarder for the Jets after Smith's pass to Clyde Gates, originally ruled a touchdown, was changed to an incompletion after the replay.

New York (1-1) cut the lead to 13-10 on Bilal Powell's 3-yard touchdown run with 5:05 left in the third quarter. The win was the Patriots' 12th straight against an AFC opponent and fifth in a row against the Jets. □

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NFL Preview

Manning Bowl III: Peyton leads Eli 2-0

BARRY WILNER

AP Pro Football Writer

The third NFL matchup between brothers and quarterbacks Peyton and Eli Manning — dubbed Manning Bowl III — doesn't make them or parents Archie and Olivia very comfortable.

However, if after Sunday's game there is a Manning Bowl IV at MetLife Stadium in February, well, the whole family would like that just fine.

The Super Bowl.

"Obviously, every year being in two different conferences, it's always a possibility," Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning says. "The teams that I've played for in the past have always been in the hunt and been to two. And he's always been in the hunt. So, we don't necessarily talk about it."

"We've played each other twice. I don't think either of us really enjoy it very much."

Peyton has a 2-0 edge over Eli, of the New York Giants, both from when Peyton was an Indianapolis Colt. Eli has two Super Bowl rings; Peyton has one.

"It's still neat because it doesn't happen very often and it is neat seeing your big brother on the sideline or seeing him before the game," Eli says. "Those moments are the things you remember and we'll remember for a long time. Hopefully, when I think back on these games, I can think back and remember at least one win."

Denver has already savored quite a win this season, in the league opener at home over defending NFL champion Baltimore.



New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning (10) warms up before a NFL football game against the New York Giants, Sunday, Sept. 8, 2013, in Arlington, Texas.

Associated Press

Peyton threw for seven touchdowns to tie an NFL record.

New York was far less successful in its opener, falling at Dallas, with Eli picked off three times and the Giants losing three fumbles.

Week 2 began with the New England Patriots beating the New York Jets 13-10 on Thursday. Tom Brady threw a 39-yard touchdown pass to Aaron Dobson on the game's first series before both offenses played as sloppily as the second-half weather. Jets rookie quarterback Geno Smith started in place of injured Mark Sanchez for the second straight game and threw three interceptions in the fourth quarter.

The San Francisco 49ers visit the Seattle Seahawks in an early showdown between the top NFC West teams and perhaps the best two



Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning (18) walks off the field after an NFL football game against the Baltimore Ravens, Thursday, Sept. 5, 2013, in Denver. The Broncos won 49-27. Manning threw a record-tying seven touchdown passes - something no one had done in 44 years.

Associated Press

teams in the conference. The Niners come off a sensational offensive performance, sparked by Colin Kaepernick's career-best 412 yards passing, and

new receiver Anquan Boldin (13 catches, 208 yards, one touchdown). The Seahawks were terrific on defense, yielding only 125 yards in the air to Cam

Newton and Carolina.

Both teams dislike each other, and this could get nasty. It definitely will get loud as Seattle's 12th man, the boisterous crowd, attempts to break the Guinness Book of World Records mark for "loudest crowd roar at a sports stadium," 131.76 decibels.

The Green Bay Packers looked good offensively last week in a difficult matchup with San Francisco's staunch defense, but were a sieve when the 49ers had the ball. Aaron Rodgers can lead the Packers to lots of points, but they must stop someone when they welcome the Washington Redskins.

The main someones to stop this week are passer Robert Griffin III, who looked rusty in Washington's opening loss, and powerhouse running back Alfred Morris, held to 45 yards rushing by Philadelphia.

Also on Sunday, it's Dallas at Kansas City; San Diego at Philadelphia; St. Louis at Atlanta; Minnesota at Chicago. New Orleans at Tampa Bay; Miami at Indianapolis; Tennessee at Houston; Cleveland at Baltimore; Detroit at Arizona; Carolina at Buffalo; and Jacksonville at Oakland.

On Monday, it's Pittsburgh at Cincinnati. □





Christopher Horner of the US, the new leader of Spain Vuelta Cycling, right, prior to crossing the line at the end of the 181 kilometer (112.5-mile), San Vicente de La Barquera-Oviedo, Alto del Naranco, the 19th stage of the Spanish Vuelta cycling race, in Oviedo, northern Spain on Friday, Sept. 13, 2013.

Associated Press

OVIEDO, Spain (AP) — American veteran Christopher Horner took the overall lead of the Spanish

Vuelta in a mountainous 19th stage won by Joaquin Rodriguez on Friday. Entering the day in second

place behind overnight leader Vincenzo Nibali, the 41-year-old Horner pulled away from the Giro d'Italia

Horner takes Vuelta lead in stage won by Rodriguez

champion over the final meters of the uphill ascent to turn a three-second deficit into a three-second lead with just two days to go.

With Alejandro Valverde trailing by 1:06 in third, the grand tour appears to have become a two-rider race.

Despite his age, Horner has finished ahead of Nibali on the last two mountain stages, powering over the finish line before the Italian slowly pedaled across.

"At this moment the legs are 'fantastico,'" said Horner, who rides for RadioShack-Leopard. "I really like steep climbs. They have been good to me. So if my legs are good tomorrow, then I should have the jersey in Madrid."

Rodriguez used an explosive burst of speed to win the stage that had followed the northern coast before turning inland for a finish at the picturesque Alto Naranco summit over-

looking the rolling green hills near Oviedo.

The Catalan rider for Katusha got his first stage victory of this edition with a winning time of 4 hours, 16 minutes, 13 seconds.

Diego Ulissi of Italy and Spaniards Daniel Moreno and Samuel Sanchez were next at 11 second behind. Horner and Valverde finished 14 seconds behind.

"I told my team to go for it," Rodriguez said. "I told them that tomorrow would be too tough because Chris has shown he is so strong. So today was the last chance."

Rodriguez is 1:57 off Horner's pace in fourth, followed by Nicolas Roche at 3:49 back.

The penultimate stage is a 142-kilometer (88-mile) course that takes riders over three major summits and ends with of a special-category climb to the Alto de l'Angliru peak before the traditional finish in Madrid on Sunday. □

Mayweather

Continued from Page 18

Not when it has the highest paid athlete in the country it isn't. Mayweather will make at least \$41.5 million for the 12-round bout, bringing his salary this year to \$73 million in two fights. Alvarez, the red-headed star from Mexico, won't do too badly himself, with a \$5 million guarantee and a chance to make double that if the fight is a big hit. For Schaefer and Golden Boy it's a bit more complicated. They get a windfall guarantee from the Showtime network — which Schaefer says doesn't even cover Mayweather's purse — and after splitting with cable and satellite companies they'll end up with about \$35 from every house that buys the fight. Add in a \$19.9 million live gate and a few million here and there from sponsorships and foreign rights sales, and it could be a nice payday indeed

for the company Schaefer and Oscar De La Hoya founded.

Those in boxing familiar with big fight promotions don't think Schaefer will have to worry about closing his company's doors. He begins to make money at about 1.5 million pay-per-view buys, and the indications are that this fight will exceed that, though getting to 2 million might be tough (Mayweather's 2007 fight with De La Hoya is the biggest selling boxing pay-per-view at 2.4 million buys).

Mayweather is the big driver behind those sales, but his fight in May against Robert Guerrero was a bit of a box office dud at about 900,000 buys.

But the 23-year-old Alvarez is already a huge star in Mexico and is seen as the biggest challenger to Mayweather since he beat De La Hoya on a split decision in 2009. Oddsmakers favor Mayweather by 2½-1, nar-



Danny Garcia, left, and Lucas Matthisse pose for photos after the weigh-in for their super light-weight boxing title fight, Friday, Sept. 13, 2013, in Las Vegas. Matthisse will challenge Garcia for the WBC and WBA titles on Saturday.

Associated Press

row odds by his standards. "Canelo is sort of a trailblazer, comparisons are being made to Oscar," said Stephen Espinoza, the executive vice president of Showtime sports, who formerly worked for Golden

Boy. "He's got the ability to cross over the way Oscar did, especially to non-boxing fans and women." Indeed, Alvarez could be a breakout star in boxing if he beats Mayweather. But what the sport really needs

is a competitive and exciting fight that even casual fans will be talking about when they return to work on Monday.

Whether it's the richest fight ever may not even matter. □

NASCAR adds Gordon to Chase field amid controversy

JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

JOLIET, Illinois (AP) — NASCAR added Jeff Gordon to the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship field Friday, a stunning and unprecedented step in the fallout from at least two attempts to manipulate the results of the regular season-ending race at Richmond last weekend.

Chairman Brian France expanded the field to 13 drivers for the first time since the format was implemented in 2004.

Front Row Motorsports appeared to ask for a deal from Penske Racing in the closing laps at Richmond as part of an apparent request from Penske to give Joey Logano pivotal track position he needed to earn a spot in the Chase. Logano passed Front Row driver David Gilliland, who then seemed to slow down by at least 1 mph, according to an Associated Press review of radio communications and data.

France said NASCAR could not determine there was a bargain between Front Row and Penske, but still believed the move was necessary to protect the integrity of the series. He said both teams had been placed on probation for the rest of the season.

"Too many things altered the event and gave an unfair disadvantage to Jeff and his team," France said. "More than anything it's

just the right thing to do. There were just too many things that went on Saturday night."

Gordon, the four-time champion, now joins Hendrick Motorsports teammates Jimmie Johnson, the five-time champion, Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Kasey Kahne in the Chase.

"It's been a roller coaster ride of emotions this week. Unprecedented set of circumstances," Gordon said. "I'm extremely happy for this. We're proud to be in it. An incredible set of opportunities now lie on our shoulders to show we believe in the Chase."

Gordon goes into the Chase as the 13th seed, 15 points behind leader Matt Kenseth when the 10-race series begins Sunday at Chicagoland Speedway. Owner Rick Hendrick agreed was pleased with the ruling.

"I applaud NASCAR for taking the time for a full review," he said in a statement. "We're extremely proud to have all four cars in the Chase for the second consecutive season. Jeff and the No. 24 team earned this spot."

Trading favors on and off the track is common in NASCAR, but the series had to investigate the Penske and Front Row bargaining allegation following the embarrassment of Michael Waltrip Racing's attempt to manipulate the outcome of the race to ben-



Jeff Gordon, right, looks on during qualifying at the Richmond International Raceway in Richmond, Va., Friday, Sept. 6, 2013. Gordon won the pole.

Associated Press

efit Martin Truex Jr. NASCAR on Monday punished the MWR organization for its shenanigans over the final seven laps and pulled Truex out of the Chase in favor of Ryan Newman.

Truex, in his first comments since he was knocked out of the Chase on Monday, said it's been a surreal week. An unwitting victim of his teammates' efforts to help him, he lost his Chase bid after driving the last two weeks with two broken bones in his wrist and a cast on his right arm.

"All I did the last two weeks was drive my heart out,"

he said Friday. "I went from feeling like I really climbed a mountain in that race at Richmond to going to being knocked out of the Chase." Speaking before NASCAR's decision to put Gordon in the Chase, Truex was asked what he'd think if the field was expanded to include the four-time champion. "Well, my team deserves to be in this Chase as much as any of those teams. If they're going to start putting people back in, they ought to consider us, too," Truex said.

But Truex is still out, punishment for his teammates' working so hard to help him get in. NASCAR will hold a mandatory team and driver meeting Saturday to clarify "the rules of the road" moving forward. France would not specify what won't be tolerated going forward.

"Obviously we drew a line with the penalties with Michael Waltrip Racing," France said. "We're going to make sure that we have the right rules going forward, so that the integrity of the competitive landscape of the events are not altered in a way or manipulated." □

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Dow Jones average has its best week since January

KEN SWEET

AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks rose broadly Friday, giving the Dow Jones industrial average its best week since January.

The market got a lift from two economic reports, one showing that inflation remained tame in August and the other showing that Americans spent more at stores last month.

The Dow rose 75.42 points, or 0.5 percent, to 15,376.06. The index closed up three percent for the week, its best five-day performance since the week ending Jan. 4.

Intel led the Dow higher. Analysts at Jefferies & Co. said Intel may be able to increase its sales with power-efficient chips. Intel rose 81 cents, or 3.6 percent, to \$23.44. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 4.57 points, or 0.3 percent, to 1,687.99. The Nasdaq composite index rose 6.22 points, or 0.2 percent, to 3,722.18. Traders had a few economic reports to work through. Americans increased their spending modestly in August, roughly 0.2 percent, the Commerce Department reported, however that was half of what economists expected.

The sales report was mixed. Shoppers spent more on cars, electronics and furniture, but they didn't buy much else. Last month, several retail chains including Nordstrom, Macy's and Wal-Mart cut their profit forecasts for the year.

The government also re-

ported that wholesale prices rose 0.3 percent last month. Over the past year, prices have only gained 1.4 percent, a sign that in-

of sales and trading at LEK Securities.

The Fed is buying \$85 billion in bonds each month, and the consensus among

strong for stocks so far. The Dow is up 3.8 percent and the S&P 500 has gained 3.4 percent.

In corporate news, Ultra



Traders work on the floor at the New York Stock Exchange in New York. Stocks rose broadly Friday, giving the Dow Jones industrial average its best week since January.

(AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

flation has remains modest. One thing driving wholesale prices higher was energy, which spiked as tensions with Syria and the U.S. escalated. Trading was light as Wall Street headed into the weekend and the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur. Investors were looking ahead to the Federal Reserve's policy meeting on Sept. 17-18, when the central bank is expected to decide the future of its bond-buying program.

"There's a lot of 'wait and see' going on until the Fed meeting next week," said Frank Davis, director

investors is that the central bank will decide to reduce its buying to about \$75 billion or \$80 billion a month. The question is not whether the Fed will cut back on its bond buying but by how much, said Scott Clemons, chief investment strategist with Brown Brothers Harriman Wealth Management.

The price of gold fell \$22 to \$1,308.60 an ounce. Oil slipped 39 cents to \$108.21 a barrel. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.89 percent from 2.91 percent late Thursday.

September has been very

Salon, Cosmetics & Fragrances surged \$17.37, or 17 percent, to \$117.50. The company reported a 28-percent increase in quarterly profit, thanks to stronger sales at its growing chain of stores.

Supermarket chain Safeway rose \$1.61, or 6 percent, to \$28.20 after analysts at Credit Suisse upgraded the stock to "outperform" from "underperform." Galena Biopharma plunged 34 cents, or 14.9 percent, to \$1.94 after the company sold 17.5 million shares of stock at \$2 a share. □

United Air to let lucky travelers fly on \$0 tickets

JOSHUA FREED

AP Airlines Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - United Airlines said on Friday that it will honor the tickets it accidentally gave away for free.

The decision is good news for people who snapped up the tickets on Thursday after United listed airfares at \$0. Many customers got tickets for \$5 or \$10, paying only the cost of the Sept. 11 security fee.

The mistake was an especially good deal for any passengers who bought tickets for travel within the next week. For instance, a Houston-to-Washington Dulles flight for next week-end would have cost \$877, according to United's website on Friday.

Airlines have posted so-called mistake fares before. They generally decide on a case-by-case basis whether they'll honor the ticket. On Friday, United Continental Holdings Inc. said it was honoring the tickets "based on these specific circumstances." On Thursday, United said there was an error in filing the fares to its computer system. United would not say how many tickets it accidentally gave away, or how much the mistake cost. The wrong fares were available on its website for a few hours on Thursday. It eventually shut down bookings on the website until it could fix the problem. Some passengers bought their tickets for flights on Friday, and then immediately checked in online and printed their boarding passes, figuring that would give them their best chance of being able to use their ticket.

Mike Nehmer bought a ticket for him and his wife to fly from Houston to San Francisco on Friday. But he chickened out after a United agent told him that his ticket would be rejected at the gate. He ended up changing his ticket to December.

"I decided it wasn't in my best interest to show up and be denied at the gate," he said. □

Gold slides ahead of Fed meeting next week

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Precious metals prices fell ahead of a Federal Reserve meeting next week where the bank is expected to consider reducing its economic stimulus.

Gold for December delivery fell \$22 to \$1,308.60 an ounce Friday. December silver fell 42.9 cents to \$21.72 an ounce.

Fed policymakers meet on Tuesday and Wednesday.

They're expected to announce a reduction in the Fed's bond-buying program, which has kept interest rates low.

Some traders have been buying gold out of fear that the Fed's program would cause inflation. They are selling it now that the program seems to be winding down and inflation remains tame.

Other metals prices were mixed.

December copper fell 0.65 cent to \$3.2035 a pound. October platinum rose \$1.80 to \$1,444.50 an ounce and December palladium edged up \$6.30 to \$699.10 an ounce.

The price of oil fell as U.S. and Russian officials held discussions in Geneva aimed at getting Syria to give up its chemical weapons. Benchmark crude for October delivery fell 39 cents to \$108.21 a barrel in

New York.

Wholesale gasoline rose 1 cent to \$2.77 per gallon, natural gas rose 4 cents to \$3.68 per 1,000 cubic feet and heating oil was flat at \$3.11 per gallon.

Crop prices fell. Wheat for December delivery fell 11.5 cents to \$6.415 a bushel, December corn fell 7.25 cents to \$4.59 a bushel and November soybeans fell 14.5 cents to \$13.815 a bushel. □

Optimistic US businesses boost stockpiles as sales grow

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. businesses restocked their shelves and warehouses in July at the fastest pace since January as their sales rose, a hopeful sign for economic growth. Business stockpiles increased 0.4 percent in July from June, the Commerce Department said Friday, after ticking up just 0.1 percent the previous month.

Total business sales rose 0.6 percent in July, up from just 0.2 percent in June. Rising stockpiles can be a good sign for the economy because they suggest companies expect greater sales. Greater inventory building also means businesses ordered more goods, boosting factory production and economic growth. And higher sales mean that companies are less likely to be stuck with

excess goods.

Business stockpiles in July stood at a seasonally adjusted \$1.66 trillion, 3.2 percent higher than a year ago. Retail stockpiles grew 0.8 percent, manufacturers increased theirs 0.2 percent and wholesalers added just 0.1 percent. Manufacturers account for about 40 percent of business inventories, retailers about one-third and

wholesalers the rest.

A separate report Friday showed that retail sales grew 0.2 percent in August, the slowest pace in four months. Still, July's sales were revised higher to 0.4 percent from 0.2 percent. The figures suggested that consumer spending is growing at a steady but modest pace. Faster restocking contributed nearly 0.6 percentage

points to economic growth in the April-June quarter. The economy expanded 2.5 percent at an annual pace in that period. Still, economists forecast that growth will likely slow in the current July-September quarter to an annual rate of 2 percent or less. Consumers remain cautious and businesses have cut back on their spending on industrial machinery and other factory goods. □

Fiat CEO Marchionne: no closer on Chrysler stake deal

COLLEEN BARRY

AP Business Writer

MILAN (AP) — Fiat and Chrysler CEO Sergio Marchionne said Friday that he is no closer to a deal for the Italian carmaker to take full ownership of Chrysler and in the meantime was moving ahead on the formalities of a public offering for the U.S. group. Marchionne told reporters in Turin, where Fiat has its headquarters, that talks were continuing with a United Auto Workers health care trust, which owns 41.5 percent of Chrysler. But the two sides continue to disagree on price. Fiat took control of Chrysler as it emerged from bankruptcy in 2009 and now owns a 58.5 percent stake. Marchionne said the trust wants \$5 billion for its stake, which is too much. "They should buy a lottery ticket," he was quoted as saying by the LaPresse news agency. Failure to reach a deal could force Fiat's hand on a public offer for Detroit's No. 3 carmaker, as the autoworker's health care trust presses to cash

out of its Chrysler holding. The trust has asked Fiat to begin working on the IPO, but can't force it to fol-

low through. Marchionne plans to fully merge Fiat with Chrysler. A Chrysler IPO would be technically ready by the end of the

year, Marchionne added, but that the markets would probably be better positioned in the first quarter of next year. The SEC filing will be ready by the end of the month, he said. Mar-

chionne has said he favors buying the trust's stake outright over selling shares in Chrysler to the public in order for the trust to make money from its stake. That would allow him eventually to list a combined Fiat-Chrysler. The two sides are at stalemate despite a July ruling from a Delaware judge siding with Fiat over the formula for setting the price for a 3.3-percent tranche of Chrysler shares. The judge declined to issue a final ruling, saying he wanted to hear more evidence. The court's ruling, if a settlement isn't reached first, would be a benchmark for the pricing of 16.6 percent of the minority shareholder's stake. The remaining would be up for negotiation. Fiat already has already exercised three call options of 3.3 percent each, and has options on two more in January and July 2014. Marchionne skipped the Frankfurt auto show this week, fueling speculation about the status of negotiations for the Chrysler stake. Marchionne cited "work commitments," without elaborating. □



A hostess sits in a Fiat 500 during the first press day of the 65th Frankfurt Auto Show in Frankfurt, Germany. Fiat and Chrysler CEO Sergio Marchionne said Friday that he is no closer to a deal for the Italian carmaker to take full ownership of Chrysler and in the meantime was moving ahead on the formalities of a public offering for the U.S. group. (AP Photo/Michael Probst)

low through. Marchionne conceded that an IPO of Chrysler could delay his

year, Marchionne added, but that the markets would probably be better posi-

chionne has said he favors buying the trust's stake outright over selling shares

in Chrysler to the public in order for the trust to make money from its stake. That would allow him eventually to list a combined Fiat-Chrysler. The two sides are at stalemate despite a July ruling from a Delaware judge siding with Fiat over the formula for setting the price for a 3.3-percent tranche of Chrysler shares. The judge declined to issue a final ruling, saying he wanted to hear more evidence. The court's ruling, if a settlement isn't reached first, would be a benchmark for the pricing of 16.6 percent of the minority shareholder's stake. The remaining would be up for negotiation. Fiat already has already exercised three call options of 3.3 percent each, and has options on two more in January and July 2014. Marchionne skipped the Frankfurt auto show this week, fueling speculation about the status of negotiations for the Chrysler stake. Marchionne cited "work commitments," without elaborating. □

Energy costs push US wholesale prices up 0.3 pct.

PAUL WISEMAN

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Higher energy costs pushed U.S. wholesale prices up 0.3 percent last month. Prices rose a modest 1.4 percent over the past year, the lowest one-year gain since April. Excluding volatile food and energy costs, wholesale prices were unchanged in August, the Labor Department said Friday. They

were up 1.1 percent over the past year, the smallest gain since June 2010 and another sign that inflation remains under control. Energy prices climbed in late August as tensions rose over Syria, accounting for two-thirds of the monthly increase in wholesale prices. More expensive vegetables and chicken lifted food prices 0.6 percent in August from July.

The Federal Reserve, which meets next week, closely monitors wholesale and consumer prices, determined to keep inflation running at around 2 percent. Consumer prices in July were up just 2 percent over the previous year. Core consumer prices have increased 1.7 percent in the past 12 months. A weak economy has contained inflation. Com-

panies can't raise prices because demand for their products isn't strong enough. The Fed's policymaking committee is expected to decide next week whether to scale back an \$85 billion-a-month bond-buying program that is meant stimulate the economy by pushing down long-term interest rates and encouraging borrowing and spending.

Some central bank committee members believe the economy has gained enough momentum to justify reducing the purchases though not ending them. But Charles Evans, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, has said that he wants to see more data showing economic strength and more evidence that ultra-low inflation is only temporary. □

Mutts



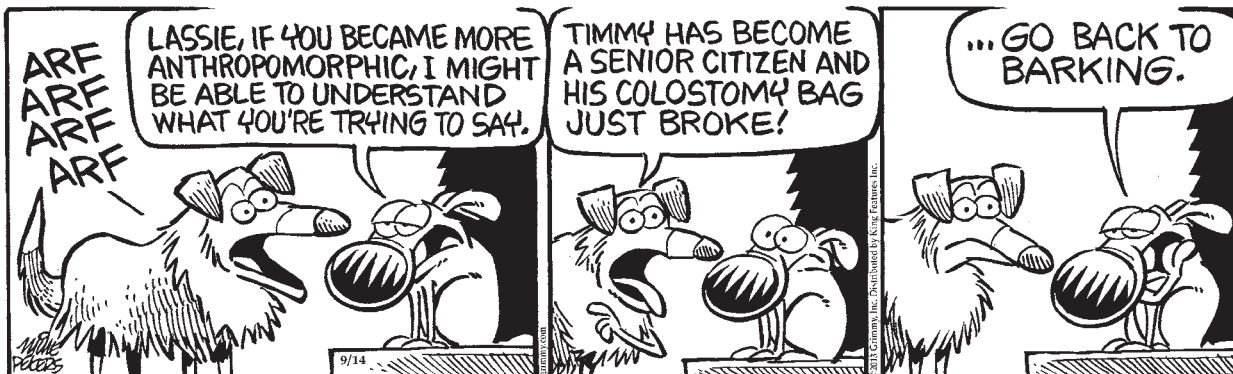
6 Chix



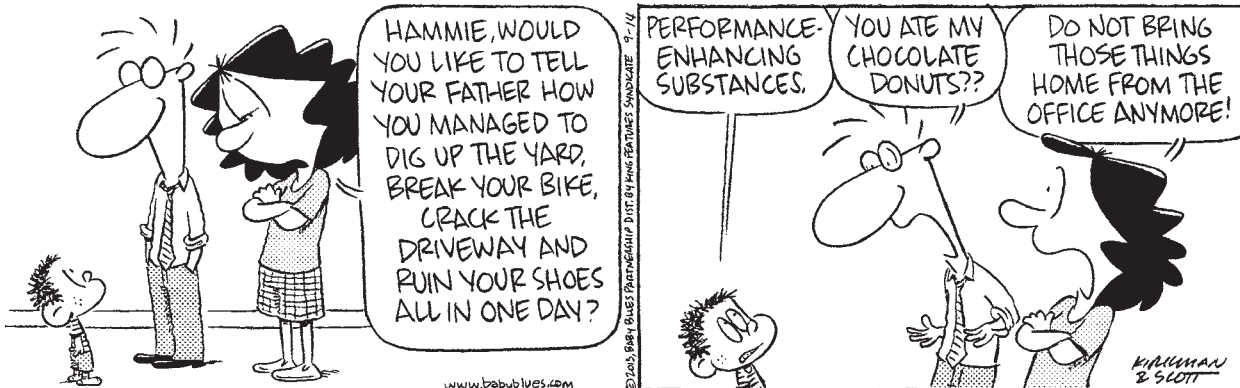
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			5	1			4	
			2					1
		6			7			
3	6				4	7		
9								6
		1	7				2	5
			1			6		
4					9			
	8			3	5			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

9/14

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

2	6	8	9	4	5	3	1	7
5	9	7	8	1	3	6	2	4
1	3	4	6	2	7	9	8	5
7	2	1	3	8	6	5	4	9
8	5	6	4	7	9	2	3	1
9	4	3	1	5	2	8	7	6
4	1	9	2	6	8	7	5	3
3	7	2	5	9	4	1	6	8
6	8	5	7	3	1	4	9	2

ACROSS

- Additional amount
- Sneezy or Grumpy, e.g.
- Gust
- Peak
- Rarin' to go
- Zone
- Camp shelter
- Thin pancake
- Having mixed emotions
- Plead with
- Book sections inserted later in the back
- One of Santa's little helpers
- Early __; one up with the sun
- Hindu teacher
- Beet's color
- B. DeMille
- Detest
- Swim __; diver's flipper
- Disinfectant
- Wedding words
- Humility
- Water barrier
- Saber wielder
- Argon or xenon
- Casino game
- __ on; trample
- Nourished
- Police car's blaring device
- 2-footed animal
- __-ups; floor exercises
- Unflinching
- Verandas
- Roaring beast
- Claro or panatella
- Low's opposite
- Shaping tool
- __ legislation; pass laws
- Consequently
- Encounter
- Amounts owed
- Home of twigs

DOWN

- Partner
- Unlocked

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21				22	23			
			24				25					
26	27	28				29			30	31	32	33
34				35				36				
37				38				39			40	
41			42					43			44	
45								46			47	
			48	49				50				
51	52	53						54			55	56
57											58	
59								60			61	
62								63			64	
65								66			67	

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/14/13

Friday's Puzzle Solved

STY		IRATE	SLAM
KOOK	SEVEN	LOBE	
ISLE	RAILS	IDLE	
SKEDADDLE	GEEK		
	PIES	MPH	
ASWIRL	HABITUAL		
CHANT	NOBLE	SEA	
TANG	RUPEE	PERK	
OPT	CEDED	CURIE	
RESERVED	LOSSES		
	DYE	BATH	
THAI	ASSESSING		
HILT	LILTS	EYES	
UNDO	ELITE	REAL	
STAR	DOMES	TRY	

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9/14/13

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 38 Battlefield doc | 51 Close noisily |
| 39 Unhappy | 52 Laundry detergent |
| 42 Cupboard | 53 Seep out |
| 44 Oven's place | 54 Treaty |
| 46 Tabby or tiger | 55 Bring on board |
| 47 Gentleman | 56 Breakfast order |
| 49 Walked back and forth | 57 Injection |
| 50 Categorizes | 60 Talk on and on |

Godfrey Sperling, 97, made eggs for press

JOHN SCHWARTZ
© 2013 New York Times
"We're on the record."

With those words, Godfrey Sperling Jr., a journalist with The Christian Science Monitor, opened thousands of breakfasts that became a Washington institution, bringing newsmakers together with news reporters, often to newsmaking effect.

Sperling, who from childhood carried the nickname "Budge," died Wednesday, two weeks before his 98th birthday, said his daughter, Mary Sperling McAuliffe.

Everyone came to the Monitor breakfasts: Presidents Reagan, Ford, Carter and Clinton, five vice presidents and more Cabinet members and assorted newsmakers than anyone could count.

Actually, that may not be true. Political reporters are as statistics-crazed as sports fans, and so as the numbers stacked up, the milestones were often noted in the press.

The 2,000th breakfast was commemorated in May 1987 with a brief article in The New York Times. It included an estimate by Sperling that the guests and journalists had by then consumed 120,000 eggs. The final tally of breakfasts (and lunches and dinners) he presided over: 3,241.

The questions could be spirited, but the atmosphere tended toward the genteel: The National Journal once compared Sperling to "Toscanini beckoning the strings and woodwinds while tempering the brass section."

The breakfasts, generally held at a hotel now known as the St. Regis, were a phenomenon of a simpler time, with more cholesterol and less technology. The conversation in Washington today is largely driven by Twitter and other online media. But Sperling offered real conversations, and those discussions, more often than not, led to news. During one breakfast in 1968, Spiro T. Agnew, then running for vice president, suggested that the Democratic presidential candidate, Hubert H. Humphrey,

was soft on Communism. During another earlier that year, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy "agonized" for an hour over whether to seek the Democratic presidential nomination, as Time magazine put it in 1970.

At a breakfast in 1993, the Republican political operative Edward J. Rollins told reporters that Christie Whitman's campaign for governor of New Jersey, which he had managed, funneled about \$500,000 in "walking around money" to black ministers and

law school at the University of Oklahoma - largely, McAuliffe said, because he was able to live rent-free with his sister, who was teaching in the area.

He married the former Betty Louise Feldmann in 1942. She died in 2012, not long after the couple celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. Besides McAuliffe, he is survived by a son, John; a granddaughter; and a great-grandson.

Sperling joined The Monitor in 1946 after serving in the Army Air Forces and stayed



Godfrey Sperling Jr. during one of his breakfast meetings at the Carlton Hotel in Washington, Oct. 8, 1981. Sperling, who hosted thousands of breakfasts that became a Washington institution, bringing newsmakers together with news reporters, often to newsmaking effect, died on Sept. 11, 2013. He was 97.

(George Tames/The New York Times)

Democratic Party workers to dampen their efforts on behalf of the Democratic incumbent, Jim Florio. (Rollins later retracted his comments.) In 1995, the House speaker, Newt Gingrich, complained about his treatment aboard Air Force One, leading The Daily News in New York to call him a "crybaby."

Sperling was first a journalist, not a toastmaster, heading the Chicago, New York and Washington bureaus for The Monitor. "While not the monitor's most elegant writer, no one in the bureau out-hustled Budge," the newspaper's obituary said. Godfrey Sperling Jr. was born on Sept. 25, 1915, in Long Beach, Calif., and grew up in Urbana, Ill. He graduated from the University of Illinois; it was there, McAuliffe said, that her father fell in love with journalism, working for The News-Gazette in Champaign.

Hedging his bets during the Depression, he attended

with the newspaper until September 2005. During his days roaming 17 states from The Monitor's Chicago bureau, he befriended local politicians who would come to national prominence, including Humphrey in Minnesota, William Proxmire in Wisconsin and Charles H. Percy in Illinois.

"It wasn't that he spent his life in Washington" that made him effective, McAuliffe said. "It was that he had his roots outside of the Beltway."

The first breakfast, he wrote in a Monitor column, was actually a lunch. Percy, running for senator, wanted to meet some reporters and wound up talking about even higher aspirations.

"That breakfast made a lot of ripples as Senator Percy told of his plans to run for president," Sperling recalled years later. "I had another. And another."

He gave up his role in organizing the events in 2002 - or, as he put it, □



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This photo provided by Carel van Schaik shows the orangutan Arno in the jungle of Sumatra in 1998 looking in the direction he intends to travel the next day and letting out a long whooping call to alert others of his route just in case they need to follow him or stay clear.

Associated Press

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's

the ape equivalent of Google Maps and Facebook. The night before a

Apes plan, communicate their trips in advance

big trip, Arno the orangutan plots his journey and lets others know where he is going with a long, whooping call.

What he and his orangutan buddies do in the forests of Sumatra tells scientists that advance trip planning and social networking aren't just human traits.

A new study of 15 wild male orangutans finds that they routinely plot out their next day treks and share their plans in long calls, so females can come by or track them, and competitive males can steer clear. The researchers closely followed the males as they traveled on 320 days during the 1990s. The results were published Wednesday in the journal PLoS One.

Typically, an orangutan would turn and face in the direction of his route and let out a whoop, sometimes

for as long as four minutes. Then he'd go to sleep and 12 hours later set on the heralded path, said study author Carel van Schaik, director of the Anthropological Institute at the University of Zurich.

"This guy basically thinks ahead," van Schaik said. "They're continuously updating their Google Maps so to speak. Based on that, they're planning what to do next." The apes didn't just call once, but they keep at it, calling more than 1,100 times over the 320 days. "This shows they are very much like us in this respect," van Schaik said. "Our earliest hominid ancestor must have done the same thing."

Scientists had seen such planning in zoos and controlled experiments, but this study provides solid evidence of travel planning in

the wild, said Frans de Waal of Emory University, who was not part of the study.

Van Schaik said he and colleagues happened upon the trip calls by accident nearly 20 years ago, first with the dominant male Arno, who they followed more than the other 14 males. They waited to publish the results because he thought few people would believe orangutans could do such planning. But in recent years, the lab and captivity studies have all shown such planning.

Based on previous studies and monitoring, van Schaik figured the male lets the world know his plans so females can come to him or stay close. Some females may want to stay within earshot in case they are harassed by other males and need protection. Others can come to mate. □

New aquifers found in desert-dry region of Kenya

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — A remote region of Kenya that suffers from frequent droughts may soon be flush with water after the discovery of huge underground aquifers. Two aquifers have been identified in the Turkana region of Kenya by using satellite exploration technology. Three other aquifers have been detected but need to be confirmed through drilling.

Judi Wakhungu, the Cabinet secretary for Kenya's Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, said that the "newly found wealth of water" opens doors to a more prosperous future for the people of Turkana and the nation.

"The news about these water reserves comes at a time when reliable water supplies are highly needed," Wakhungu said in a statement Wednesday. "We must now work to further explore these resources responsibly and safeguard them for future generations."



In this Tuesday, March 14th, 2006 file photo, Turkana women catch fish at Loarengak on the shore of lake Turkana in northwestern Kenya. The remote Turkana region of Kenya that suffers from frequent droughts may soon be flush with water after the discovery using satellite exploration technology of huge underground aquifers.

Of Kenya's 41 million people, 17 million lack access to safe water, and 28 million do not have adequate sanitation, according to UNESCO. Violence over scarce natural resources frequently break out in the

Turkana region.

The discoveries were made near Lake Turkana, the world's largest permanent desert lake and largest alkaline lake. The region has produced a string of ancient paleontological finds

connected to humans' earliest days millions of years ago.

The underground lakes were discovered by Radar Technologies International, which said its survey found that the two confirmed Tur-

Associated Press

kana aquifers hold a minimum of 250 billion cubic meters of water, finds it said could boost Kenya's share of available water by 17 percent.

RTI said the three other unconfirmed aquifers could hold another 30 billion cubic meters of water. Drilling will confirm the existence of those three masses of water. "This groundwater raises the prospect for improving the livelihoods of the Turkana people, most of whom live in poverty and have limited access to basic services and clean water," said RTI, which detects water using satellite data, oil exploration technologies and conventional hydrogeological techniques. The finding demonstrates how "science and technology can contribute to industrialization and economic growth, and to resolving real societal issues like access to water," said Gretchen Kalonji, UNESCO's assistant director-general for natural sciences. □

Pharrell talks about battle over 'Blurred Lines'

EMERALD MURROW
Associated Press

Singer and producer Pharrell is engaged in a battle with Marvin Gaye's estate over Robin Thicke's mega-hit "Blurred Lines," but he wants to make one thing clear — he has incredible respect for the late soul legend.

"I'm a huge fan of Marvin Gaye. He is a genius. He is the patriarch," Pharrell said on Thursday night.

The hit-maker collaborated with Thicke on the No. 1 smash, which some have said sounds very similar to Gaye's "Got to Give it Up." Last month, Pharrell, Thicke and the song's other collaborator, T.I., filed a lawsuit

asking a judge to determine that it does not copy Gaye's song and a song by George Clinton. It was a pre-emptive strike against future claims from Gaye's heirs that the song takes from Gaye's composition without credit.

Pharrell told The Associated Press on Thursday night that the two songs are not similar at all.

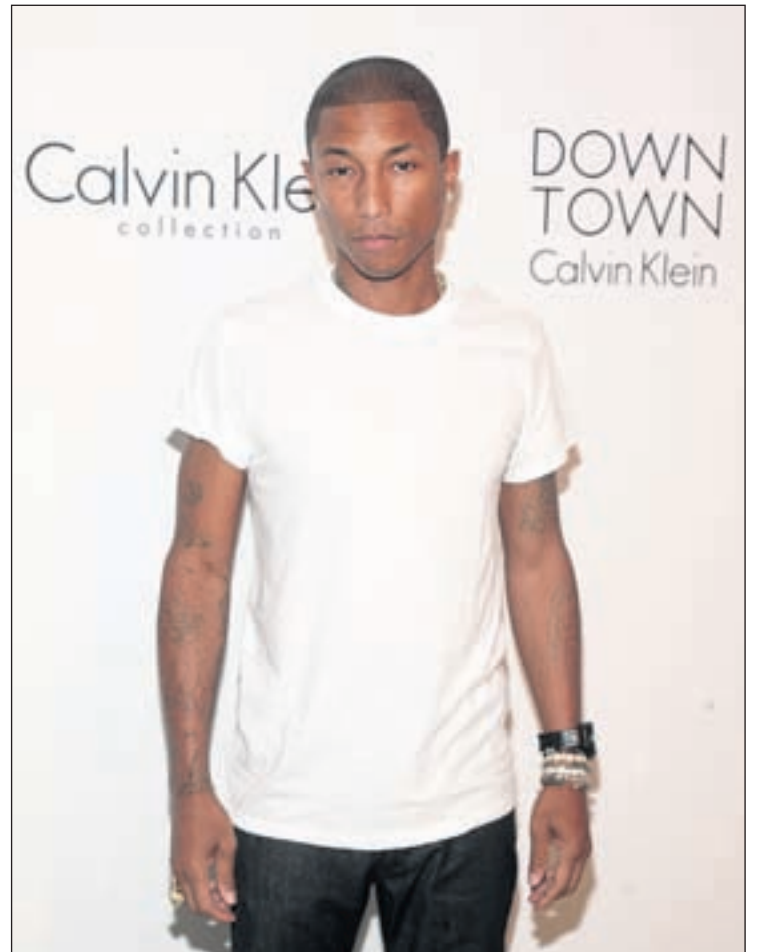
"If you read music, all you have to do is read the sheet music. It's completely different," he said while on the red carpet during an event for the Calvin Klein Collection during Fashion Week.

Gaye "is the king of all kings, so let's be clear about that.

And we take our hats off to him," he said. "But anybody that plays music and reads music, just simply go to the piano and play the two. One's minor and one's major. And not even in the same key."

The Grammy winner has had a huge year; he was also a collaborator on the other big song of the summer, Daft Punk's "Get Lucky."

"I'm thankful. It's awesome," he said. "You know, the people are doing it. You know what I mean? They don't have to, but the fact that they have, it's a really awesome experience and moment, you know?" □



Recording artist Pharrell Williams arrives at the Calvin Klein post show event at Spring Studios on Thursday, Sept. 12, 2103 in New York.

Associated Press



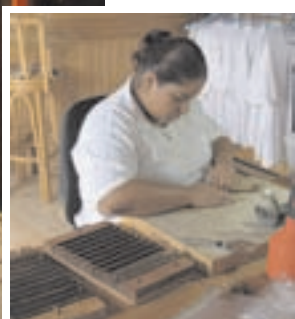
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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. With any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 9 am to 1 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. Aruhiba gift boxes are now available at Dufry Shop at the Airport.



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Playwright Ethan Coen fears he's selling out

MARK KENNEDY

AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Ethan Coen, nursing a black coffee in a midtown cafe at the end of a busy workday, is in no mood for compliments. Don't dare suggest, for example, that he might be growing as a playwright just because after years of making one-act plays he's just delivered his first full-length work for the stage. "That's a hurtful thing to say to somebody — I don't think I'm growing," says Coen, half of the successful moviemaking Coen brothers and only half-joking. "That sounds terrible." It quickly becomes clear that a chat with Coen will veer into the surreal, just as many of his films do. He's an introvert with a fondness for dark humor and a precise turn of phrase. He also might mess with you. David Cromer, who directs Coen's new play, "Women or Nothing," and has been a huge fan of the Coen brothers' "Fargo," "Miller's Crossing" and "The Big Lebowski," says meeting his idol wasn't a disappointment. "He's everything you want him to be — this fascinating, hilarious, shambling, angry writer," says Cromer. "I was around someone



This May 19, 2013 file photo shows film director and playwright Ethan Coen during a photo call for the film "Inside Llewyn Davis" at the 66th international film festival, in Cannes, southern France. Associated Press

who slung words really, really beautifully." Coen, who turns 56 this month, has been writing plays for more than a decade but never tackled a full work until now. "It's recreational. It's part-time," he says. "I'm a play hobby-

ist. I'm a gentleman playwright." His works until now have been mostly collections of bite-sized, noir one-act plays — exploring loathing in the workplace, fear of death, mixed romantic signals or the terminally lost.

He has packaged them — three to a pop — in "Almost an Evening," "Offices" and "Happy Hour," for the well-respected Atlantic Theater Company, which is producing the new one. He also contributed a playlet to the Broadway production of "Relatively Speaking" in 2011. ("My trip uptown," he calls it.) Why he began writing plays is a mystery, even to the playwright. "I don't know why. You know, it's kind of like doing movies. You see a movie and you go, 'OK, I can try one of those. Maybe I could do that,'" he says. "It's the same impulse: that would be fun." Coen is balancing work on "Women or Nothing," which opens this month, with putting the finishing touches on his and brother Joel's next movie, "Inside Llewyn Davis," the story of a singer-songwriter in the 1960s New York folk music scene. One project he's largely staying out of is a TV version of his film "Fargo" that's being produced by FX. The Coens are associated with the series but aren't being very hands-on. No characters will be carried over from the movie, which Coen thinks is a good idea, since some

ended up in a wood-chipper. "What are you going to do?" he asks. "Some of them have been radically disassembled." The latest four-person play began forming in his mind over the past year and just happened to turn into a full-length work. It's the story of a lesbian couple desperate to have a child who must woo a potential father and calm a meddling mother. Is he exploring how messy life can be? "Is it exploring that? I don't know. It sounds like somebody who is growing would explore something like that. It exploits that for its comic potential," he says, then adds for emphasis: "resolutely not growing." It also turned out to be something that makes Coen slightly ill at ease: commercial. He's been listening to the audience at intermission and people seem to be enjoying themselves, a rare occurrence at his plays. "It's weirdly a kind of boulevard comedy or abject sellout, depending on your point of view," he says. "Although we can't say it's an abject sellout until it sells out and proves I have successfully sold out." Cromer, the director, says the play is deceptive — it obeys the rules of a light comedy until suddenly it doesn't. He found in the script "the most interesting conversation I'd ever read and the most interesting sort of love scene I'd ever read. It was just something really original in the form of something that's not original." Coen, who clearly is not growing, may have a hit on his hands. The play has already been extended and a woman came up to him and asked if the rights to produce it were available in Brazil. He played hard-to-get. "I said, 'Yes, as far as I know. Let me check,'" Coen recalls. "It's kind of a trip if it gets done somewhere else in a version that I have no idea what the hell they're doing. It's funny at the level of a weird thought experiment, which is kind of what it is." □

Kidman says she's OK but shaken after bike hit

NEW YORK (AP) — Nicole Kidman says she was shaken up after being knocked down by a bicyclist on a New York City sidewalk. Kidman appeared on the red carpet Thursday night celebrating Francisco Costa's 10th anniversary as the women's creative director of the Calvin Klein Collection. Earlier, she was outside a hotel when she was hit by a bicyclist. She was knocked to the ground, but in an interview with The Associated Press at the Calvin Klein event, she said she was OK. Kidman added: "I'm up, I'm walking around, but I was shaken." Police say a 19-year-old bicyclist was issued three summonses for riding a bike on the sidewalk, riding a bike with no helmet and reckless driving. □



This image released by Calvin Klein Collection shows, from left, Anna Wintour, Virginia Smith, Nicole Kidman, Rooney Mara, and Naomie Harris at the Calvin Klein Spring 2014 collection during Fashion Week in New York on Thursday, Sept. 12, 2013. Associated Press

Rich Man's Recovery



PAUL KRUGMAN

© 2013 New York Times

A few days ago, The New York Times published a report on a society that is being undermined by extreme inequality. This society claims to reward the best and brightest regardless of family background. In practice, however, the children of the wealthy benefit from opportunities and connections unavailable to children of the middle and working classes. And it was clear from the article that the gap between the society's meritocratic ideology and its increasingly oligarchic reality is having a deeply demoralizing effect.

The report illustrated in a nutshell why extreme inequality is destructive, why claims ring hollow that inequality of outcomes doesn't matter as long as there is equality of opportunity. If the rich are so much richer than the rest that they live in a different social and material universe, that fact in itself makes nonsense of any notion of equal opportunity.

By the way, which society are we talking about? The answer is: the Harvard Business School - an elite institution, but one that is now characterized by a sharp internal division between ordinary students and a sub-elite of students from wealthy families.

The point, of course, is that as the business school goes, so goes America, only even more so - a point driven home by the latest data on taxpayer incomes.

The data in question have been compiled for the past decade by economists Thomas Piketty and Emmanuel Saez, who use IRS numbers to estimate the concentration of income in America's upper strata. According to their estimates, top income shares took a hit during the Great Recession, as things like capital gains and Wall Street bonuses temporarily dried up. But the rich have come roaring back, to such an extent that 95 percent of the gains from economic recovery since 2009 have gone to the famous 1 percent. In fact, more than 60 percent of the gains went to the top 0.1 percent, people with annual incomes of more than \$1.9 million.

Basically, while the great majority of Americans are still living in a depressed economy, the rich have recovered just about all their losses and are powering ahead.

An aside: These numbers should (but probably won't) finally kill claims that rising inequality is all about the highly educated doing better than those with less training. Only a small fraction of college graduates make it into the charmed circle of the 1 percent. Meanwhile, many, even most, highly educated young people are having a very rough time. They have their degrees, often acquired at the cost of heavy debts, but many remain unemployed or underemployed, while many more find that they are employed in jobs that make no use of their expensive educations. The college graduate serving lattes at Starbucks is a cliché, but he reflects a very real situation.

What's driving these huge income gains at the top? There's intense debate on that point, with some economists still claiming that incredibly high incomes reflect comparably incredible contributions to the economy. I guess I'd note that a large proportion of those superhigh incomes come from the financial industry, which is, as you may remember, the industry that taxpayers had to bail out after its looming collapse threatened to take down the whole economy. In any case, however, whatever is causing the growing concentration of income at the top, the effect of that concentration is to undermine all the values that define America. Year by year, we're diverging from our ideals. Inherited privilege is crowding out equality of opportunity; the power of money is crowding out effective democracy.

So what can be done? For the moment, the kind of transformation that took place under the New Deal - a transformation that created a middle-class society, not just through government programs, but by greatly increasing workers' bargaining power - seems politically out of reach. But that doesn't mean we should give up on smaller steps, initiatives that do at least a bit to level the playing field.

Take, for example, the proposal by Bill de Blasio, who finished in first place in Tuesday's Democratic primary and is the probable next mayor of New York, to provide universal prekindergarten education, paid for with a small tax surcharge on those with incomes over \$500,000. The usual suspects are, of course, screaming and talking about their hurt feelings; they've been doing a lot of that these past few years, even while making out like bandits. But surely this is exactly the sort of thing we should be doing: Taxing the ever-richer rich, at least a bit, to expand opportunity for the children of the less fortunate.

Some pundits are already suggesting that de Blasio's unexpected rise is the leading edge of a new economic populism that will shake up our whole political system. That seems premature, but I hope they're right. For extreme inequality is still on the rise - and it's poisoning our society. □



That Threat Worked



NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF

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For all you innumerable skeptics of President Barack Obama's calls for military strikes on Syria, consider this:

For decades, Syria has refused to confirm that it has chemical weapons. Now, facing a limited strike, its position abruptly changed to: Oh! We do have them after all! And we want to sign the Chemical Weapons Convention! We want to show them to United Nations inspectors.

In short, the mere flexing of military power worked - initially and tentatively. And while it seems that neither Congress nor the public has any appetite for cruise missile strikes on Syria, it will be critical to keep the military option alive in the coming weeks or Russia and Syria will play us like a yo-yo.

Frankly, I'm skeptical that a deal can be worked out in which Syria hands over its chemical weaponry, and Obama may have exchanged a losing struggle with Congress with a Sisyphean struggle with Russia. But it's not impossible. And even if Syria cheated and stalled and eventually handed over only half of its chemical arsenal and none of its biological arsenal, that would still be a huge win for global security. So here's a three-track strategy

for Syria going forward:

- Negotiate with Moscow on removal of Syrian chemical weapons and insist on conditions to ensure we're not being played, including immediate disclosure to the United Nations of chemical weapons stockpiles, a binding Security Council resolution confirming the deal, a reference in the resolution to "serious consequences" for noncompliance, and immediate installation of camera monitors on at least a few locations.
- Groundwork in Congress to authorize a limited missile strike if Syria does not comply, partly to retain leverage with Moscow.
- Expansion of efforts to arm and support moderate Syrian rebels, accompanied by covert cyberwarfare on the Syrian regime, to try to change the momentum on the ground.

Ultimately, that's the best hope to coerce President Bashar Assad to step down so that all sides can try to reach a cease-fire and power-sharing agreement. Yet if we're going to sustain the pressure, we have to address these fundamental questions: Can we really promote peace with military force? Is it possible to help a country by bombing it?

Longtime readers know that I adamantly opposed the Iraq war and Afghan surge, oppose strikes on Iranian nuclear sites and tend to think we overinvest in military tools and underinvest in diplomatic ones. So many readers were stunned that I've endorsed missile strikes on Syria - and I'm hearing screams of betrayal.

"You can't kill people to show that it's wrong to kill people," Christine protested on my Facebook page.

"When has violence, killing and aggression helped anything," demanded Jan, also on Facebook.

The answer is: Sierra Leone, Mali, Ivory Coast, Bosnia and Kosovo. In each of those countries, an outside military force intervened at minimal cost and saved large numbers of lives. In several (as

Clausewitz would have predicted), war buttressed diplomacy and helped achieve peace agreements.

We think of warfare in binary terms, as if our options are invasions or nothing at all, but that's misleading. All-out wars have a poor record, but modest interventions of the kind Obama is talking about in Syria have a more successful (though still mixed) history.

That's even true in Iraq, although I hate to mention the word because it sends a shudder up every reader's spine. While the war that began in 2003 was a disaster, two limited interventions succeeded in Iraq. One was President Bill Clinton's 1998 bombing of Iraqi military sites for a few days (maybe the closest parallel to Obama's plan for Syria); it may have convinced Saddam Hussein to abandon WMD programs. The other is the no-fly zone over Iraq's Kurdish areas in the 1990s to prevent a genocide there. They were limited uses of force that proceeded so smoothly that they are hardly remembered.

"War is obviously terrible, but it's not the ultimate evil," notes Kenneth Roth, executive director of Human Rights Watch. "Some things are worse, and one is the deliberate slaughter of civilians." Human Rights Watch doesn't take a position on a strike on Syria, and Roth notes that military intervention isn't the first tool to reach for to prevent mass atrocities. Sometimes armed intervention hurts. Sometimes it helps. We're left to decide on a case-by-case basis.

In Syria, for 2 1/2 years, we've given the regime a green light, and the killing has escalated from 5,000 a year to 5,000 a month - and, last month, to a poison gas attack that was perhaps the biggest massacre in the war. Now Obama's threat of military strikes has turned the light yellow, Syria is scrambling to adjust, and there is some hope of a diplomatic solution. Let's not allow the light to go green again. □

HEADY COCKTAIL OF BOOKS AND BOOZE

LAURA COLLINS-HUGHES
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NEW YORK - Let the publishing industry fret about the future of print. In an ever more digitized age, literature as live event appears to be thriving.

A case in point: the sprawling web of Lit Crawls - like pub crawls, but with authors - that have made their way from San Francisco, where they began in 2004, into literary strongholds across the United States and now as far as London, whose inaugural Lit Crawl was last weekend. Next month, Los Angeles will have its first.

But this weekend the action is closer to home, with the sixth annual Lit Crawl Manhattan. For three hours on Saturday evening, the bookishly inclined will take to the streets of the East Village and the Lower East Side, seeking their literary fix in bars, art galleries and the occasional pizzeria or laundromat.

According to Suzanne Russo, director of Lit Crawl NYC, it is not a series of sit-downs featuring glossy, boldface names, but a grit-

ty, low-budget affair, both more accessible - there are no tickets, and admission is free - and more locally oriented, giving lesser-known New York writers a turn in the spotlight.

For that reason, Russo said, it draws people who aren't part of "the nerdy literary crowd" - though it draws those who are, too.

Bronwen Hruska has participated in past crawls, both as a novelist and as the publisher of Soho Press. She sees a marked contrast between what she called the party feel of Lit Crawl, filled with writers interested in having fun, and events studded with literary stars, which, for the audience, can feel "almost like worshiping at the foot of your idol." Lit Crawl, she said, is "much more approachable as a literary festival."

"I hired a baby sitter," Hruska said. "I'm going this weekend."

The lineup - more than two dozen events spread out over three phases, beginning at 6 p.m. - includes interactive games, like a round of "naughty trivia"



A Lit Crawl event hosted by Washington Square Review at the Thirsty Scholar pub in the East Village, in an undated handout photo. The Lit Crawl, like a pub crawl, but with authors, returns to Manhattan Sept. 14, 2013, offering lesser-known New York writers a turn in the spotlight and readers a chance to seek their literary fix in bars, art galleries and the occasional pizzeria.

(Ky Huynh via The New York Times)

with Ophira Eisenberg, the host of NPR's "Ask Me Another"; ghost stories with Lapham's Quarterly at the Merchant's House Museum, which may or may not have ghosts of its own; a performance by Farrar, Straus & Giroux's house band, the Savage Detectives; and straight-ahead author events, like the New Voices Reading Series "Radical Latinas" program. Jack Boulware, execu-

tive director of Litquake, the San Francisco literary festival that spawned the crawls, said they offer readers and aspiring writers a level of access to authors that auditorium-style events tend not to allow. "You can buy them a drink," he said. "You can go to the after-party and hit the dance floor with them if you want. You can talk to them in a social setting. They're not just whisked off-

stage. It's much more democratized in many ways." Lit Crawl is also about as low-tech as a brick-and-mortar bookshop. Depending on the space in which an event takes place, Russo said, even a microphone or a projector might be too much to expect.

The timing of this year's crawl, and a Friday night benefit at Le Poisson Rouge, is not ideal, Russo said: Yom Kippur begins Friday at sundown and lasts until just after 7 p.m. on Saturday. This week, the novelist Lore Segal bowed out of her scheduled event, citing Yom Kippur commitments, but is now back on, Russo said.

But, she noted, only one event curator asked, because of the High Holy Day, to be scheduled in a later slot.

The Lit Crawl brand, which expanded to Austin, Texas, in 2011; Seattle and Brooklyn in 2012; and Iowa City, Iowa this spring, does not have a monopoly on the concept of the literary crawl. But veterans of the San Francisco Lit Crawl - Litquake's annual festival capper, which drew an estimated 4,000 people last year to more than 80 free events and takes place this year on Oct. 19 - have been enthusiastic about replicating the format elsewhere. □



A map for a Lit Crawl, in an undated handout photo.

(Ky Huynh via The New York Times)